The price is right

CD stores offer good deals, variety of merchandise

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The dating game

Find out about the worst dates of all time

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VOLUME 66 · ISSUE 4
FEBRUARY 28, 1996
SHAKERITE
SHAKER HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL · 15911 ALDERSYDE DRIVE · SHAKER HEIGHTS, OHIO 44120

Lewis to carry Olympic torch in June

BY TOBY BULLOFF
Staff Reporter

"Citius, Altius, Fortius– Swifter, Higher, Stronger." These words of the Olympic motto will be dear to junior Bakara Lewis while she is fulfilling her childhood dream of being in the Olympics this summer.

Lewis was selected by the Atlantic Committee for the Olympic Games to be a Community Hero Torchbearer representing Shaker Heights. Seventy-nine of the 5500 Community Heroes are from Northeast Ohio.

She will carry the flame along a path in downtown Cleveland on June 9 or 10, which is a leg in the countrywide relay started in April in Los Angeles. The path will finish in Atlanta in time for the opening ceremonies on July 19.

Although Lewis is co-captain of the track team, she was picked to run the half mile segment because of her dedication to her community and her outstanding volunteer work. She is a Core member of SGORR, a Student Council member and participates in Chanticleers. Lewis also performs many small jobs around Shaker, such as youth group and being a library aide.

Jill Allen, Assistant Athletic Director, gave Lewis an application for the honor in November. Lewis and her mother wrote essays describing why she was qualified for the position. It was decided by a panel of judges that Lewis did indeed embody the Olympic spirit: the respect for human dignity, the joy found in effort, the value of good example and service to others– simple qualities of a hero.

Her mother said this opportunity was especially sweet because Lewis had always wanted to be a part of the Olympics, whether competing or otherwise.

She participated in her first competitive running race in Kindergarten. Sometime in either fifth or sixth grade she created a computer newsletter in class with herself as an Olympic champion.

When Lewis found out in early February she was to be a torchrunner, she said the feeling was indescribable.

"It was like a dream come true. It was totally unexpected," Lewis said. "It really hasn't hit me yet."

Men win Districts

Women's swim team earns second place

BY RYAN GOHMANN
Staff Reporter

MAKING A SPLASH. The women's swim team shows off their award. They placed second, while the men placed first. *Shakerite photo courtesy of Erin McCourt*

For the first time in 20 years, a public school emerged victorious as the men's swim team defeated runner-up Hawken for the District Championship on Feb. 17.

Junior Brian Wamsley and sophomore Matt Keay sparked the Raiders with big wins, Wamsley in the 200 and 500 free and Keay in the 100 back. The 400 free relay team of senior Volker Windeck, senior Chris Hill, Wamsley and Matt Keay also placed first. The team held off defending champion Hawken, providing a fitting end to a grueling season. Both the men's and women's teams practice once or twice a day for 11 months a year.

"We knew that we could do this at the end of last year, and we wroked really hard all year, and we did it," Hill said. "This is probably the best thing I've ever been involved with."

Wamsley agreed with Hill, citing the team efforts as the reason for the win.

"It was incredibly exciting. It was a culmination of a year's effort. It was an incredible high that everyone contributed so much all year and that everyone worked for so long," Wamsley said.

The men finished the first day of the two day event in first place, thanks in part to Wamsley's triumph. The win gave them the confidence they needed to continue in their efforts.

"After we placed four people in the top eight of the 200 free, we were able to take the momentum and go on to win the [district] championship," senior Dan Goldberg said.

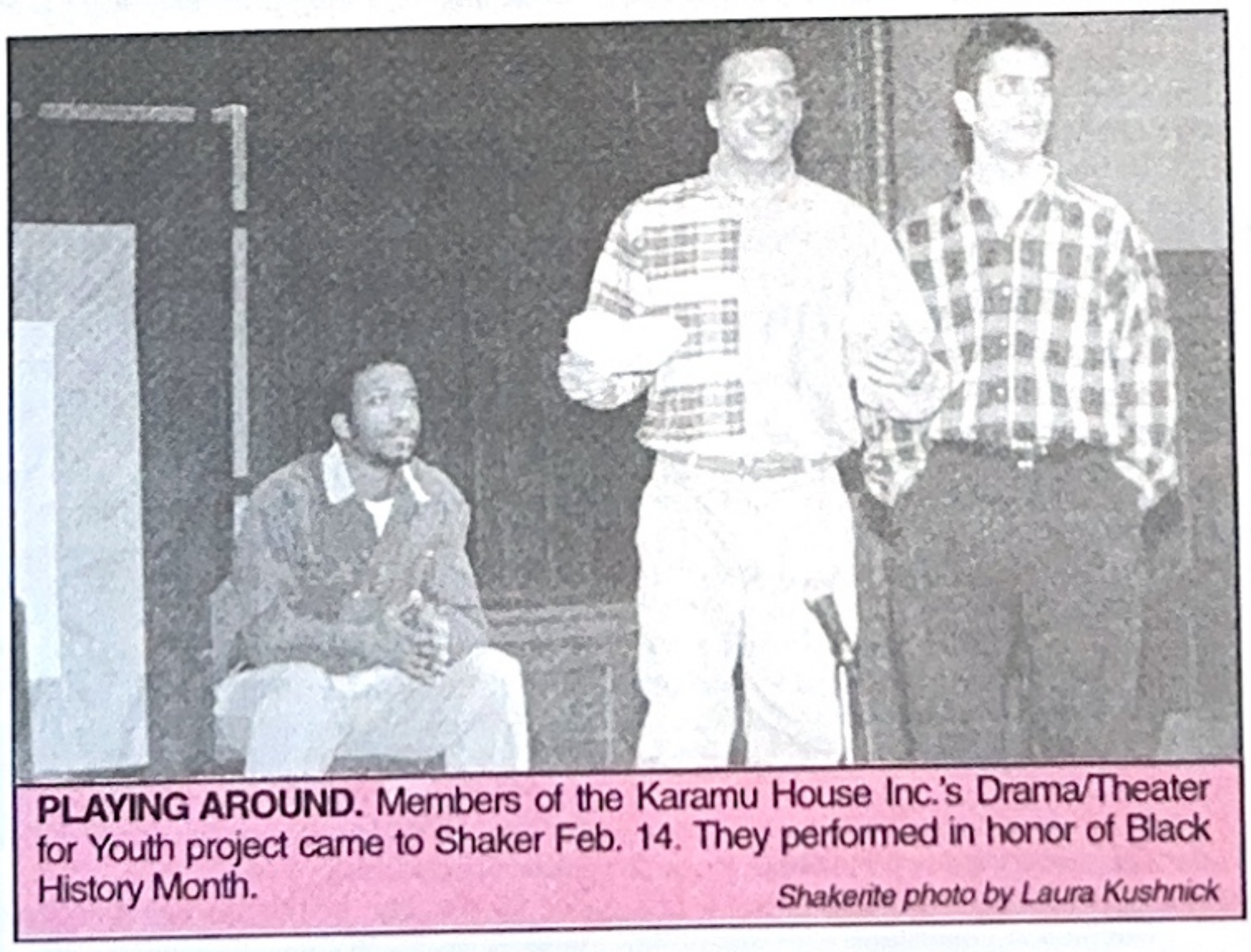
The women's team finished second in the district behind Hawken. The loss was a bit of a disappointment after last year's win, but the team was still happy for the men's team.

"[The second place finish] was a little anticlimactic after last year, but we showed a lot of heart. We're really proud of the boy's team," senior Erin McCourt said.

Other team members agreed with McCourt and said it was the men's turn to shine.

"It was great for the boys to be a part of this. We got our chance last year, and we had some good swims, but it was just time for the boys t get their chance," senior Carla Chokel said.

Members from both the men's and women's teams represented Shaker at the state meet. For the men, Goldberg, Hill, Andrew Keay, Matt Keay, Brian Moore, Glen Tetzlaff, Chris Taylor, Wamsley and Windek attended the state meet. For the women, Chokel, Kelly Scott, Jenny Koss, McCourt, Jane Calfee, Lauren Dietrich, Sharon Yates, Schuyler Holmes and Cara Barnard moved onto states.



PLAYING AROUND. Members of the Karamu House Inc.'s Drama/Theater for Youth project came to Shaker Feb. 14. They performed in honor of Black History Month. *Shakerite photo by Laura Kushnick*

February is Black History Month

more on pages 3 & 5

Debate team members qualify for state tournament; two qualify for nationals

Eleven debate team members qualified on Feb. 17 for the state tournament. They are: sophomore Geoff Detrich, senior Cordelia Heaney, sophomore Paul Ip, sophomore Laura Brunengraber, junior Alex Rawson, freshman Alan Murphy, junior Matt Youngner, junior Pat McMenamin, sophomore David Distelhorst, freshman Najah Farley and senior Jenny Spencer. Rawson and Youngner qualified for the nationals in June. They will also debate at the City Club March 15 at 12 p.m.

The results are in:

Proficiency test rates decrease slightly from '94

BY STEVE DEOREO
Staff Reporter

More freshmen failed the writing proficiency test this fall than in any of the past five years, and 51 percent will retake at least one section of the proficiency test in March.

English Department Head Jon Bender said the writing test may have been more difficult this year, possibly explaining the lower passing rate. Thirty one percent of the freshmen failed the writing test this fall, compared to 10 percent failing in '94.

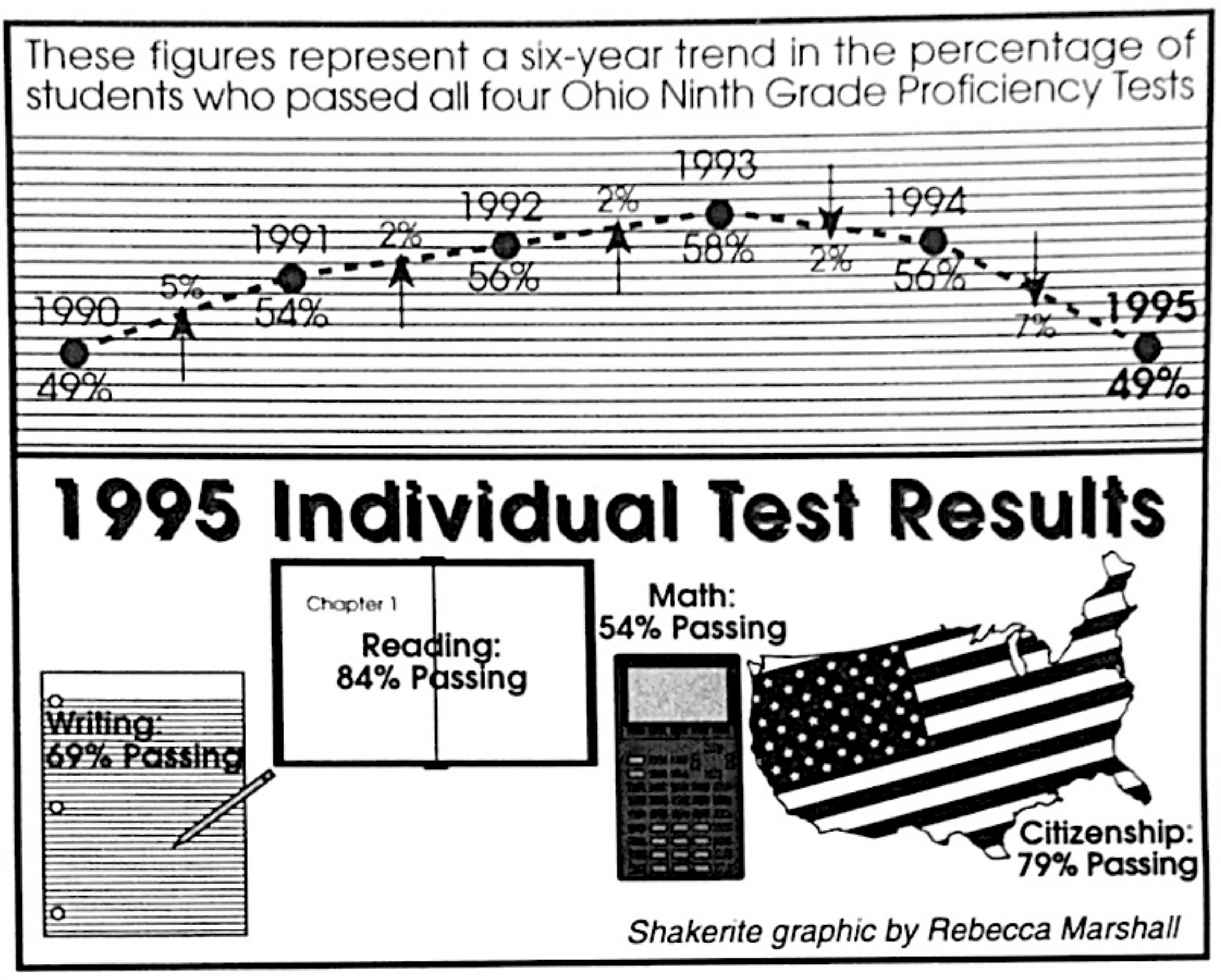
"The prompts this year included expository writing which is more difficult to some students than the narrative style required in previous years. Also, writing scores decreased in other districts, not just Shaker," Bender said.

The ninth grade proficiencies are state required exams taken by all freshmen in public schools. The exam is comprised of four sections: math, reading, writing and citizenship. Students must only retake the section they failed the first time, and they are required to graduate high school.

Along with writing, all other passing rates decreased slighly this fall compared to the '94 results. The School Board has moved the proficiency tests to the middle school where the teachers can help students from day one. The present eighth graders will take the proficiency tests in March.

Though the Shaker curriculum is not built around the proficiencies, the middle school teachers can take extra measures, such as giving sample tests. Principal A. Jack Rumbaugh said the move was appropriate because the proficiency exams test a student's retention of everything he or she has learned in kindergarten through eighth grade.

"It will be to the student's advantage to have the tests in March of the eighth grade year, because they will be better prepared to take them," Rumbaugh said.


These figures represent a six-year trend in the percentage of students who passed all four Ohio Ninth Grade Proficiency Tests

Shakerite graphic by Rebecca Marshall

Since the tests began, sources like *The Plain Dealer* have used Shaker's ninth grade proficiency low scores to criticize the quality of education at the high school. However, ninth graders take the test after only two months at this school, so they are not really "products" of a defective high school education, according to Rumbaugh. Also, many administrators think one test is not a good representation of a student's ability.

"The tests are not unfairly hard, but I do not think any one test can assess a student's ability– especially multiple choice tests. It's like playing pick a winner," Rumbaugh said.

Many students who have passed the proficiencies think they are easy, while others who did not pass one or all sections think the result of one test has unfairly labeled them.

"[The tests were] pointless and easy. They were the same kind of thing we took as pre-tests during the eighth grade," freshman Malina Shaw said.

Several programs in the high school are offered to students who need to pass one or more sections of the test. English teacher Beth Illes-Johnson helps any student requiring assistance to pass the writing section in room 224. Reading Specialist Michael Nash assists students for the reading section in room 259. The PROBE review session also provides assistance for all sections of the proficiency tests to students who need to pass them.

Rumbaugh and Curriculum Chairman William Newby both said they expect improvement in the eighth grade proficiency test results.

"I think within the next year or two, we will see our scores up over the 80 percent mark in all categories," Rumbaugh said.

NEWS BRIEFS

School Board increases public involvement

Newly elected School Board member Nancy Moore began her plight to involve the community in school issues by proposing a new policy at the Jan. 9 meeting permitting public comments prior to the School Board voting.

The School Board approved the public input motion on Jan. 9 on the condition the School Board president, currently Rev. Marvin McMickle, has discretion over public comment. The motion was instituted in an effort to increase communication and understanding between the community and the School Board, according to Moore.

"Before this policy, I did not have an opportunity to hear from the public about the issues I was voting on. As an elected representative of the public, it is important to know how the public feels," Moore said.

The new policy has already changed community and School Board relations, Moore said after the Feb. 13 meeting. Representatives of Lomond school asking the School Board to return the art, music and P.E. staff cut by the levy were allowed to give the School Board petitions and comments before the Board voted on the issue.

Presently, the School Board's agenda includes finding a replacement for Thomas Moss, who resigned from office, and working with the city to plan an expansion complex at Thornton Park.

Moss will move to Washington D.C. to become executive director of the Government/Industry/Research Roundtable at the National Academy of Sciences. The remaining four School Board members will appoint Moss' replacement. Sixteen Shaker residents have applied for the position, and the Board hopes to make its final decision in March.

The School Board is currently negotiating with the city to build a $7.5 million facility that includes an indoor pool, tennis courts, racquetball courts, gym and new rink.

"The schools want a bond issue to receive capital. The city and schools are meeting jointly to determine how to meet the capital needs. We want to cost the taxpayers less money," Moore said.

The School Board hopes to have a bond issue without an income tax increase by the city, Moore said. The Board will meet with the city for a four month period to finalize the facility plans.

–Nawal Atwan

Three seniors compete in TV game show

BY MARIE FRISOF
Opinion Editor

Three seniors brought the high school to a strong second place finish in an episode of *Academic Challenge*, which aired on Channel 5 on Feb. 17 at 6:30 p.m.

A team of six Shaker students, three contestants and three alternates, participated in the taping of the show in early December. They competed against University School and Stow–Munroe Falls. The contestants were seniors Sean Chang, Owen Maresh and Jessica Zagier. The alternates were seniors Virginia Pierce and Maurice Wingfield and junior Shelli Calland. Laura Barnett was the staff adviser for the team.

Academic Challenge is a TV trivia contest for high school students which tests general knowledge in a game show format. It is hosted by Channel Five Weather Man Don Webster. The show consists of five rounds: one "Picture-Perfect" round, two rounds of random, generalized questions with the teams in direct competition and two rounds where each team answers a series of related questions without time constraints or direct competition.

Shaker placed second to University School. Team members answered questions about photographs or reproductions of art during the "Picture-Perfect" round.

In the other rounds, they answered questions such as"What is the name of the Miami basketball team, who wrote the Star Spangled Banner and what is the surface area of a cube with side length four?"

Barnett chose the six member team from the 10 people who auditioned in the fall. The team met after school on Mondays or Fridays and practiced for the competition by answering trivia questions and playing *Trivial Pursuit*. According to Barnett, the most difficult part of practicing was assembling the entire team.

"Everybody's so busy, so it was difficult finding a time to practice," Barnett said.

Despite the obstacles presented by limited practice time, most of the team said they went to the contest feeling prepared. They decided as a team who should compete and who should be an alternate.

"We all had areas in which we were stronger than other people," Pierce said. "Sean can do math problems very quickly, and Jessica knows a lot of history, and Owen knows a lot of science."

The Shaker contestants said one of the greatest difficulties was adjusting to the lights and electronics once they were actually up on stage.

"Since University School has been doing this for a long time, they were used to looking at the monitors [in the round where it was required]. With all the glitz and lights, we were sort of blown off our track, so to speak," Maresh said.

The alternates said they felt the contestants from Shaker held up well under pressure.

"I was pretty impressed with how they did under pressure. I can sit out there in the audience and say, 'I know that answer, and I know it faster,' but it is different when you are up there," Pierce said.

However, the team said they were not too disturbed by their loss to University School.

"I was kind of apathetic, you know. There was no money on the line. You get some really lousy trophy if you win, so heck, it doesn't matter much to me," Chang said.

This was the high school's first year participating in *Academic Challenge*, so most of the team was pleased with their second place finish.

"It was fun. It was just really exciting to go in there and compete." Barnett said.

AfterProm Party volunteers needed

Parents Donna Fallon and Lavita Ewing are seeking volunteers to help with the senior class AfterProm Party to be held on May 12 from 1 to 5 a.m.

Volunteers are needed to help solicit prizes, work on decorations, run casino games, chaperone, assist with ticket sales and help clean up.

Contributions of cold, hard cash are warmly welcomed!

Please send donations to SHHS AfterProm, 15911 Aldersyde, Shaker Heights 44120. For more information about AfterProm, please call Lavita Ewing at 752-9069 or Donna Fallon at 491-9733.

–Gloria Porras

Paris wins prestigious art award

BY LAUREN DICKS
Staff Reporter

True artistic abilities placed senior Norman Paris in the top five positions at the 16th Annual Cuyahoga County Regional Scholastic Art Awards Exhibition at the Cleveland Institute of Art on Feb. 4.

Paris, student of graphic design teacher Jim Hoffman, was selected in the top five from 3,500 entrants from approximately 100 area schools. Paris won four Gold Key awards, the highest form of recognition.

His work included three pastel paintings. They are "Thrust," which is based on the media, "Bliss," which pictures a face emerging five times using color munipulation and a self portrait containing just the head and shoulders.

"Doing the artwork for the show was great. Placing in the finals was cool, but doing the art was the best," Paris said.

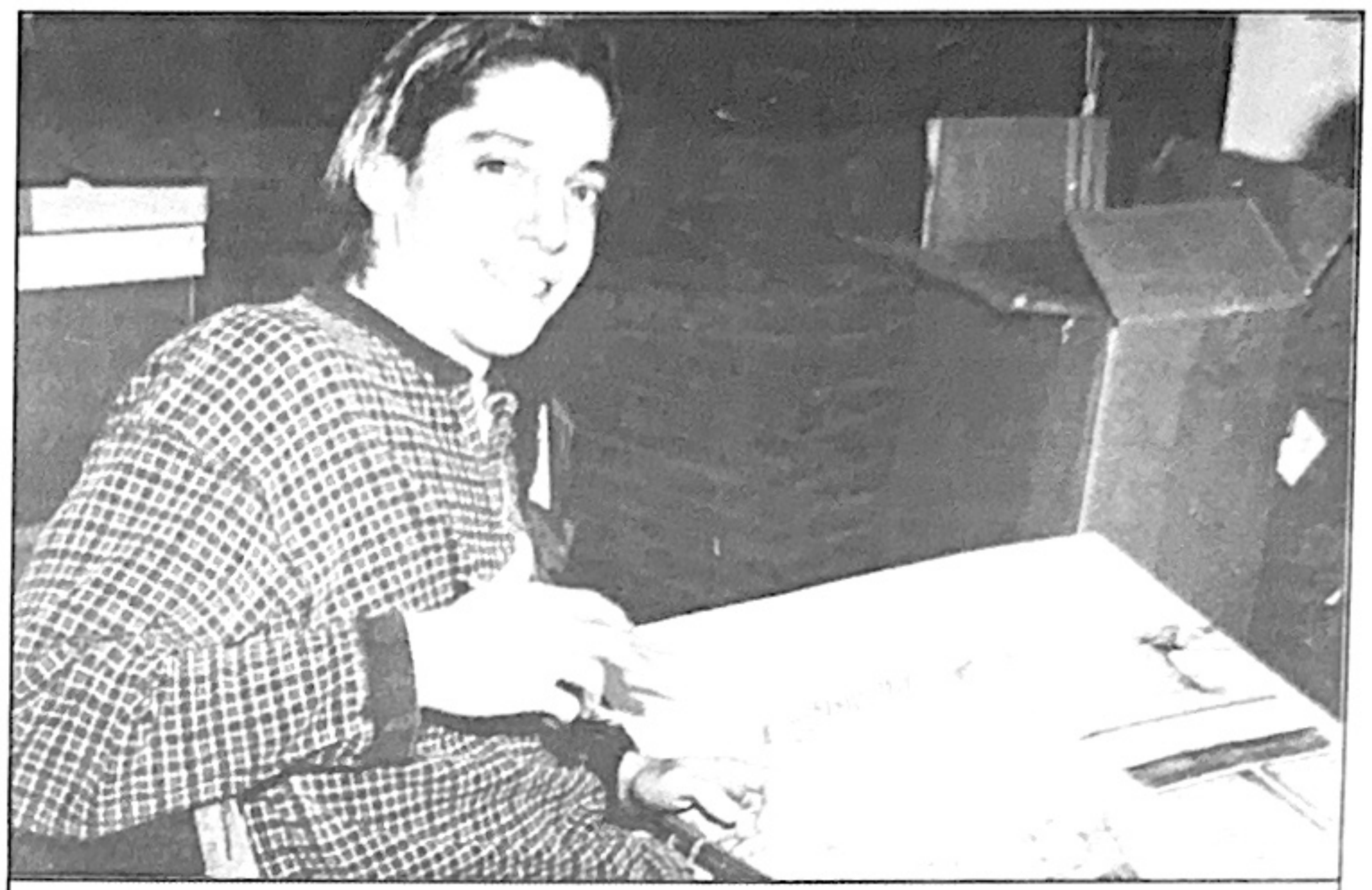
The selective judging process for the contest was instituted by a jury of 15 art educators and professional artists. Paris' work, along with the top 100 key finalists, will be sent to New York City to compete with 220,000 national entries for scholarships, cash prizes and medals. Paris said he is applying to several art colleges.

Paris also submitted a five minute comedy movie called "School Day," which earned him the fourth Gold Key award. He gives credit to Skidmore College, where he took a summer course in vidoegraphy, for achieving the award.

"I took a great class at Skidmore College in videography and that's how I got the idea to do a movie. I just carried out my idea and applied what I learned," Paris said.

Paris said creating art is a unique and inspirational feeling. He said the process for submitting his work was grueling, but it payed off in the end.

"Doing the art was cool because drawing was like an energy flow through my body. But filling out forms for every piece of work and deciding what pieces to submit was very stressful," Paris said.



LET THE CREATIVE JUICES FLOW! Senior Norm Paris works on an art piece. Paris recently placed in the top five in a competiitive art contest.

Shakerite photo by Laura Kushnick

Karamu highlights Black History Month celebration

BY CAITLIN MASINI
Staff Reporter

Larry Doby, the first black player in the American League, former Cleveland Brown James Brown, Olympian Dehart Hubbard, first black Indians manager Frank Robinson and Carl B. Stokes, the first black mayor of Cleveland, are all black native Clevelanders.

February is set aside every year to honor these and all blacks and their history.

Students find it important to celebrate the lives of African Americans.

"I think that Black History Month is a very important time. I think that it should be used by both blacks and whites to reflect upon the struggles of the black race to get where it is today," sophomore Jackie Munyasya said.

Karamu House Inc.'s Drama/Theater for Youth project came to the high school Feb. 14 and presented "Northcoast Express." The program depicts the lives of many influential members of Cleveland's black community. An acting workshop with the students in the Humanities and African American History classes took place after the assembly. Reading specialist Michael Nash organized this event.

"It is important that the whole school is involved. It is important for all kids and people to realize what black people have done for Cleveland and this was an easy way to do it," Nash said.

Humanities and Global Studies teacher Charles Spinner's Humanities classes do a project every year for Black History Month. Each student did a report on a figure in black history and did a presentation about that person for Joan Servis's fourth grade class at Onaway, Spinner said.

Freshman Michael Jones, a student in Spinner's class, said he liked the experience but felt that February just is not enough.

"I feel that black history should be taught every month, not just in February," Jones said.

Many other students agreed with Jones, including sophomore Eric Bahna.

"Black History Month is a time which is supposed to bring all people together. I believe that it should not be just one month. Racial peace should be celebrated all year round," Bahna said.

African American History teacher Ruben Henderson is another teacher who is incorporating Black History Month into his class. His students are doing a project about Afro-centric children's books. Librarian Lois Kaplan did a presentation for Henderson's students about stereotypes in children's books and how the number of black children's books has significantly increased from the time when she was young.

Henderson's students will go on a trip to "A Cultural Exchange" Larchmere, which is one of the largest multicultural bookstores in Cleveland, according to Henderson. Here the students will hear presentations from the store's director about children's books, and Barbara Eady, a professional storyteller, will tell the students black children's stories.

NEWS BRIEF

Student Council plans agenda

Policy Committee:
- Dealing with the lack of student parking problem
- Trying to get permission for the use of the small lockers in the boys locker room
- Both of these issues were discussed when the committee met with Dr. A. Jack Rumbaugh on Feb. 15

Communications Committee:
- Trying to get the use of the snack machines in the cafeteria during after-school hours

Community Committee:
- Planning a community day for May which will feature games between students, teachers and other people in the community

Spirit and Events Committee:
- Planning the talent show on March 17 which will feature dance, vocal, instrumental and miscellaneous categories of competition

–Emily Goetz

Shakerite pizza. Hot and fresh every Tuesday after school in the Egress.

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Top Ten Top Ten Lists:

10. Top Ten Polka Albums of All Time
9. Top Ten Methods of Lemming Suicide
8. Top Ten Surgeon General's Warnings
7. Top Ten Anchovy Flavors
6. Top Ten Illicit Drugs
5. Top Ten Dice Sides
4. Top Ten Answers to True & False Questions
3. Top Ten Stupid Halloween Costumes
2. Top Ten Members of the Jackson Five
1. Top Ten Top Ten Lists

Senior proficiencies measure senior deficiencies

THE RITE IDEA

Passing by, one might have thought the population of the high school had suddenly shrunk, for the usually crowded oval was lined with relatively few cars and the spacing between them was almost too comfortable.

But in actuality only about one fourth of the high school population was there at eight in the morning during the week of Feb. 5-9. Those seniors, required to take the 12th grade proficiency tests, had parked *in the traditional manner, leaving just enough room to prevent the underclassmen from parking when they arrived at 10* a.m.

This expression of resentment was rooted in a general and universal failure to understand or justify the senior proficiency tests. For high-achieving students, the tests were neither interesting nor challenging and for seniors who have struggled through high school, senior proficiencies were just another stressful experience without adequate explanation or justification. The tests seem to lack purpose.

The state of Ohio requires that schools give senior proficiency tests to measure and evaluate the adequecy of education between 9th and 12th grade. They help determine the strengths and weaknesses of the current curriculum and necessary changes in future classes. Senior proficiency tests basically serve as a barometer to measure past and present achievement and predict which future changes in curriculum will be necessary.

Granted their relevance, both to current and future students, it is surprising that the administration has failed to communicate the importance of senior proficiency tests. Most students regard them as a wasteful expenditure of time that could be better spent sleeping or catching up on back homework. It is difficult for most students to take the test seriously, but they are necessary to clarify any major deficiencies in our current curriculum. Unfortunately, the administration has altogether failed to convince this year's seniors of the importance of the proficiency tests.

The attitude that proficiency tests are a waste of time is also due to their direct effect on students. A student can graduate without passing the 12th grade proficiency tests and still receive an Honors diploma. The only proficiency test requirement for graduation is passing the ninth grade proficiency tests.

So why care at all about the 12th grade tests?

They have a relevance beyond the last four months in high school and the first year of college. Senior proficiency tests help determine gaps in the curriculum and clarify which types of students are not served by the current programs and are being lost someplace in their high school education. It is the responsibility of the administration to clarify this for us so that the tests, although tedious, are not dismissed as irrelevant.

CHEERS & JEERS

Jeers to internal weather– heat waves, cold fronts, and precipitation– all in the same building.

Cheers to juniors taking over (cheers to seniors going bye-bye).

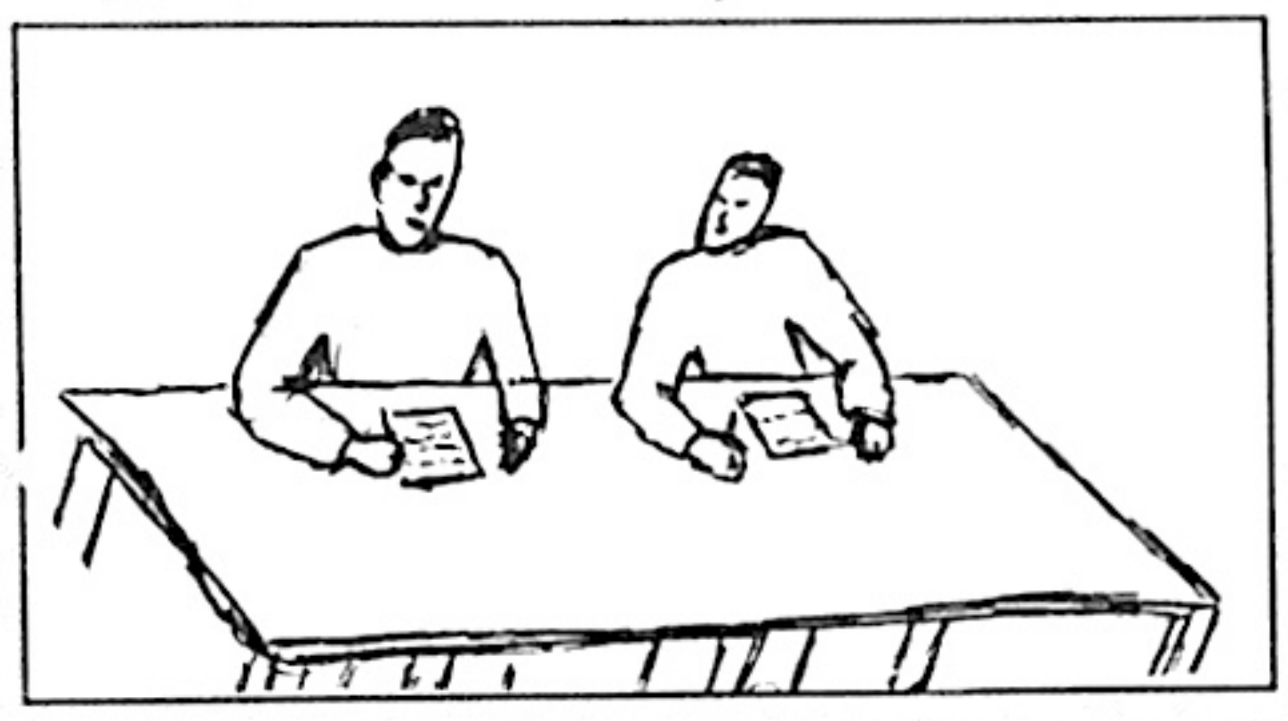
Jeers to snow.

Cheers to yellow. Yellow submarines, yellow lights, sunshine, bananas, rain slickers, daffodils, used snow, school buses, freshman carnation cards, custard, crayons, Pessel's sofa, vintage paper, phone books, dandelions and butterflies.

Cheers to leap year.

Cheers to senior proficiencies, unless you're a senior.

Cheers to funny *Cheers & Jeers* (there aren't very many.)



Cheers to Spring Break. May your mornings be late and your evenings be even later.

Jeers to crappy Cleveland radio stations.

Cheers to the swim team. They're all wet.

Jeers to seniors. The rest of us can park.

Cheers to spaghetti.

THE TOP TEN

Top Ten New Names for T.V. Shows...

10. NYPD Blue: Nude Young Preppy Detectives Blow.
9. Saturday Night Live: The '70s Are Over; We Should Be, Too.
8. Seinfeld: 4 Annoying New Yorkers.
7. Friends: 6 Annoying New Yorkers.
6. X-Files: X-tremely X-hausting.
5. French Prince: The Butler Did It.
4. Baywatch: Don't Watch.
3. Moesha: Brandy Can Sing But She Can't Act.
2. Monday Night Football: Big Dumb Guys Tackling Each Other for Big Bucks.

...and the number one new name is...

1. Beverly Hills, 90210: a Bunch of White Trash 20-Somethings Sponging off their Parents' Money and Sleeping with Anything that has a Pulse.

SHAKERITE
SHAKER HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL · 15911 ALDERSYDE DRIVE · SHAKER HEIGHTS, OHIO 44120

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Tracking benefits only gifted students; small mixed classes best for majority

The Dec 12, '95 Guest Riter column in the *Shakerite* requires a response. The problem with Shelli Calland's essay, "Gifted students deserve quality education," is that her Oct, '91 source presents a glowing picture of ability grouping as an educational practice. If we move forward to the Nov, '95 issue of *Phi Delta Kappan*, however, we will see quite a different picture. Ability grouping is the subject of major debate in education.

Calland wrote as if research has clearly demonstrated great advantages for grouping. This is simply not true. If anything, those who defend ability grouping have had an extremely difficult time establishing a strong educational justification for ability grouping. In general, the research shows that though there may be small gains for high ability student groupings, there are potentially serious disadvantages for others.

Of course, the great fear of the parents of gifted students is that their child's gifts will go undeveloped– especially if their child must sit in a classroom with students who struggle, thus requiring the teacher to "dumb down" the curriculum. But educators who believe in untracking classrooms recognize that standards must remain high; however, teachers must learn to provide "a wider variety of ways for children to achieve these standards." Good teaching, innovative teaching is critical. In fact, Richard Jaeger and John Hattie, professors at the University of North Carolina, conclude their study of tracking by pointing out that "the effects of ability grouping are small and are substantially surpassed by the effects of many teacher-related instructional innovations."

Is it possible that if we intensively and cooperatively worked to improve teaching that we could eliminate ability grouping– replacing it with small heterogeneous classes? (And, I might add, if we vastly improved counselling and communication with families.) To continue with the status quo at Shaker is, I think, to overlook a major component in the puzzle of underachievement plaguing the district.

In contrast to Calland's upbeat support for ability grouping, let me conclude by quoting Robert Slavin's perspective on the downside of ability grouping: "Ability grouping by its nature works against democratic and egalitarian norms, often creates racial or ethnic divisions, risks making terrible and long-lasting mistakes, and condemns many children to low-quality instruction and low-quality futures." These are very serious charges. Do any of them apply here at Shaker?

One thing is clear, if Shaker retains any pretension of remaining the national model of excellence it once was, the debate over ability grouping should be a major focus of discussion. I have to thank Shelli Calland for raising an issue too frequently ignored among the professional staff.

-Paul Springstubb

Shakerite, you're the one;
You make reading so much fun.
Shakerite, I'm awfully fond of you!

Shakerite graphic by Rebecca Marshall
"Ernie is copyrighted 1996 by Jim Henson Productions

Black History Month

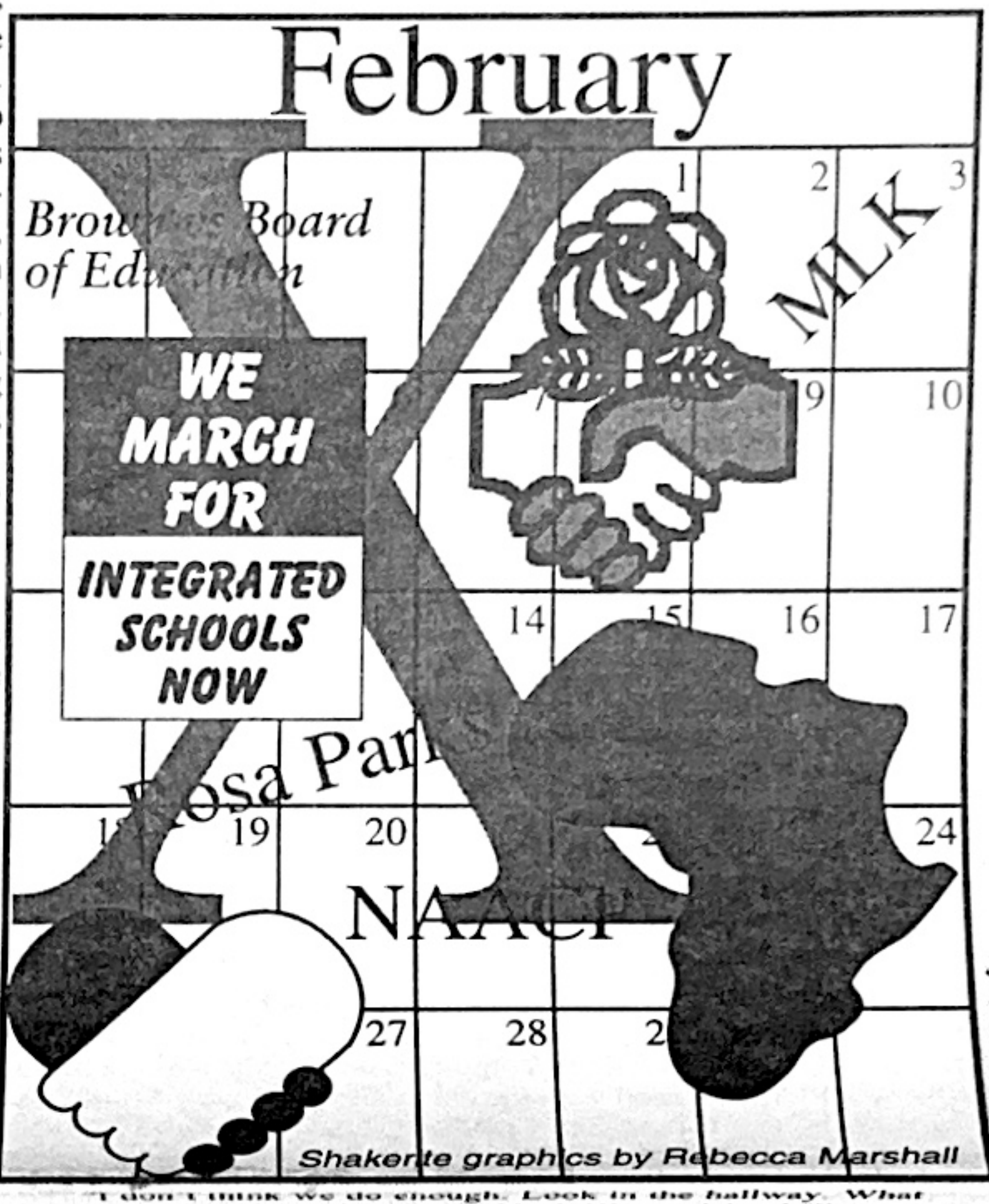
"Black History Month is educational for everyone. We all need to learn about each other's cultures. Part of the problem is that nobody takes time to learn about each other, at least as far as racism is concerned. We're not educated about each other. That's what Black History Month does."
-Terry Carrothlers, custodian

"We haven't done anything this year, and I don't really feel the need. I feel it's important to learn about other cultures, but we should learn about all cultures, not just African-American culture. The underlying principle is good, but we don't need a specific time period [to study African-American history]."
-Emily West, junior

"I don't think Shaker schools do enough to contribute to the African-American perspective. They could do more to help African-American students who are achieving below average throughout the year, instead of just one month about famous people. Celebrating one month of a culture that has such a bearing on the United States culture is not enough."
-Najah Farley, freshman

"I think that it is a good opportunity to learn about people who are often ignored."
-Peter Morgenstern-Clarren, freshman

"There's a lot of stuff that Shaker should be doing that they're not. They're not acknowledging Black History Month. Everybody should acknowledge it because back in the '60s people busted their butts to get us where we are. It's a shame that our school isn't celebrating Black History Month."
-Dionne Yarbrough, freshman



Shakerite graphics by Rebecca Marshall

"I don't think we do enough. Look in the hallway. What hint do you have that this is Black History Month?"
-Robert White, teacher

"I didn't know there was a Black History Month until I came to Shaker. It was all kind of new to me...I think Black History Month is a good idea, but I think everybody should get a month."
-Cheryel Jennings, security

"All black history tends to focus on Martin Luther King, and there are a lot of other powerful black leaders we could be studying. Instead of a separate class, black history should be incorporated into the regular curriculum. Black history should be taught to all students so all students can learn about black leaders."
-Carl Ewing, sophomore

"I keep forgetting it's Black History Month because there's nothing going on. Nobody's saying anything about it...As a school, we should get everybody involved. Black History Month is not just for black people."
-Danielle Barnes, sophomore

"Every February comes around, and what do you learn about? You learn about the people you have to learn about. Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman– you learn about these people because you have to. You never discuss black people in recent history who have achieved things...All you have is little itty-bitty questions and answers. It trivializes the whole thing."
-James Bates, junior

"Black History Month is not really celebrated at this school. Blacks have contributed a lot to society in science, math, history, English and technology, and it is not recognized here or anywhere else...There is still a lot of racial bias throughout the district."
-Janelle Tate, sophomore

Quotes compiled by Marie Frisof

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

All or none: hall guards must be consistent

To the Editor:

The unfairness in the hallway is something that people should look at in this school. Kids can walk around and get harassed by teachers just because they don't have a pass. I understand that it is a school rule not to walk in the halls without a pass, but when teachers harass kids that don't play any sports or are not as popular as other [students], they are violating school rules. So why is this? Why are teachers more likely to let people with reputations be free of harassment?

An example of this is the life I have in the hallways. If you didn't know it, I play football. When I walk down the hall, teachers say "hi" and keep on walking. But when I see other people walk past the same teacher, about five minutes later, they are stopped and harassed about being out of class. That's not fair! I don't mind that they don't harass me, but I'm no different from anybody else. Just because I play football doesn't mean anything. There are other people that have a reason to be in the hallways. And the fact that they are stopped can really upset a person.

What can we do? What should we do? That's something to ask the teachers in the school, and maybe they could come up with something.

-Shawn Wright

Hall monitors should avoid disrupting class

To the editor:

During my free periods I like to go to my locker and pick up the books that I need and to drop some off. Usually I talk to my friends in a normal tone while getting my books or whatever. Then here comes the hall monitor, shouting "Get to class!" If I'm not mistaken, I thought that the hall monitor's job was to make sure that students are not disturbing the students who are trying to learn something in the classrooms. I'm not disturbing anyone from learning by going to my locker, but the hall monitor marching down the hallway like Robocop, shouting, "Do you have a place to go?" is clearly distracting students from learning.

-Trinita Phillips

Smoking policy in need of revision

To the Editor:

One of the pressing issues to all the cigarette smokers that attend SHHS is the no-smoking policy that exists. Between all the hassling by security and the fear of Saturday school, the nicotine-needing students are almost forced to get into trouble.

I can understand the neighborhood households getting perturbed by students standing in front of their lawns, trying to get that last drag in before being busted, but if the administration wants us not to loiter, then they must be more lenient on the smoking policy.

Also, if the students are in their own private property (i.e. their cars) that are parked around the oval, there is no reason that they should not be able to smoke. There they are harming nobody, neither neighbors nor peers.

There is no reason that students should not be able to smoke on campus or in sight of it. If the students were responsible about disposing their cigarette butts, then there would be absolutely no upstanding reason to not let us smokers make our own choices in what we do.

-Laura Ackerman

Shakerite *survey misguided, poorly edited*

To the Editor:

As a senior, I looked at my umpteenth *Shakerite* and felt the need to comment about a specific item from last month's issue.

To open the awaited newspaper and see a survey taken by the *Shakerite* staff entitled, "Do You Know Your Current Events?" is rather upsetting. Did you wish to show how dumb the student body is? In addition to the misguided purpose of the survey, you, the *Shakerite* staff must not know who our Secretary of State is. I understand typos, deadlines and pressure, but if you dare print something that questions the knowledge of Shaker students, you had better know the answers. If a mistake is made, work on your communication skills, because I knew nothing about the "note" sent to teachers regarding the typo.

-Billy Zavelson

And in other news...finals are finally obsolete

BY MARIE FRISOF
Opinion Editor

The following is a transcript from a recent evening news program on a local station, Jane Frownley anchoring.

Frownley: ...Thanks, Ted. And in other news, local merchants report that sales of coffee, caffeine pills and Jolt increased dramatically for a two week period toward the end of January.

Background screen: Line graph of coffee sales, with peak around mid-January.

Frownley: Store owners offered no explanation for the phenomenon, but one district manager is quoted as saying, "It seems to be just a lot of kids buying caffeine. For some reason, they don't sleep for two weeks. Sure beats me."

Local officials are also puzzled and are said to be consulting numerous sources in search of an explanation for this perplexing and extremely disturbing trend. Now to Bill, in front of City Hall for some on-site reporting.

Background screen: Flash to Bill, microphone in hand, standing in front of City Hall and speaking directly to the camera.

Bill: City Hall officials are working, as we speak, to understand this strange shift in sales. They have called in psychics, child psychologists and sociologists. The psychics have ruled out mass aura disturbances, supernatural activity and group possession so far, but alien contact is still considered a possibility. *(Consults notes.)* The child psychologists are recommending group therapy and the establishment of a 12-step program, Caffeine Addicts Anonymous, CAA.

Most promising, the sociologists have discovered a possible link to an obsolete practice in the local high school, a series of tests known as finals. Now back to you, Jane.

Background screen: Whitens and then blank as Bill is obscured by blowing papers.

Frownley: Thanks, Bill. We managed to interview one of the professionals contacted by the people working at City Hall. John Doe, an eminent sociologist and professor at Middleford University in Kentucky, claims that finals may be responsible for the unexplained increase in caffeine sales.

Background screen: Flash to John Doe in his study at the university.

Doe: You see, finals put these students under a type of stress simply not replicated in any other aspect of civilized life. In other stressful situations, the participants at least understand the value of their effort. *(Scratches head.)* For about a week and a half students' eating and sleep habits change. They are easily irritated and show increased hostility, not unlike people deprived of sleep for extensive periods of time. They are especially hostile toward certain school employees, proctors, I think they're called.

Background screen: Black, and then a mug of steaming coffee.

Frownley: When questioned about the value or application of finals to real life, Doe had no comment. *(Consults notes.)* In an apparently unrelated story, suicide hotlines reported a record number of calls from older teenagers in late January...

Background screen: Flash to a 16-year-old attempting to commit suicide by jumping off a pile of books...

Death Row: Shaker students support murder, sexual assault with album sales

BY MILES BERGER
Co-A&E Editor

Shakerite artwork by Reuben Levine

Shaker students commit murder and sexual assault on a regular basis. Well, OK, they do not actually commit these crimes per se, but they are nonetheless responsible for them.

By buying albums put out by companies like Death Row Records, whose rappers and "executives" commit such crimes, Shaker students are subsidizing these crimes. The only way for fans, including Shaker students, to avoid responsibility for these crimes is to stop buying these records and encourage others to do the same.

The three main rappers on Death Row records– Snoop Doggy Dogg, Dr. Dre and Tupac Shakur– are all convicted felons. Snoop Doggy Dogg has a long record of offenses, and he was recently acquitted in his trial for participating in the '93 murder of Philip Woldemariam, an Ethiopian immigrant. Dr. Dre just finished serving a five month work-release sentence for violating the terms of his probation from an earlier assault charge. Shakur is currently free on $1.4 million bail from the New York prison where he is serving time for the sexual assault of a 21-year-old woman.

In addition to the crimes of their artists, the management of Death Row records is dirty as well. In '90, Death Row CEO Suge Knight was trying to get Dr. Dre signed over onto Death Row from the late Eazy-E's Ruthless Records. When Knight was unable to legally obtain Dre's release from his Ruthless Records contract, he and several other Death Row "executives," threatened Eazy-E with baseball bats and pipes, according to documents filed with the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco. Eazy-E's manager, Jerry Heller, is quoted in the book *Moguls and Madmen* as saying that a Death Row executive put a finger up to his forehead and said "I could have blown you away right now."

Not all of Death Row's murky business dealings have been just talk, though. At a party for record producer Jermaine Dupree last year, Death Row employee Jake Robles was shot and later died from his wounds. No one was arrested in the shooting, although it allegedly sprang from a previous disagreement between Death Row Records and Bad Boy Entertainment, a rival company.

Meanwhile, a man was fatally beaten at a party held by Death Row Records to honor the Soul Train awards. Once again, no charges were filed.

As these examples show, record companies like Death Row are run by the law of the jungle, in which disagreements between rival companies are settled by violence and/or murder. What is most interesting, however, is how rappers and "executives" get away with these crimes.

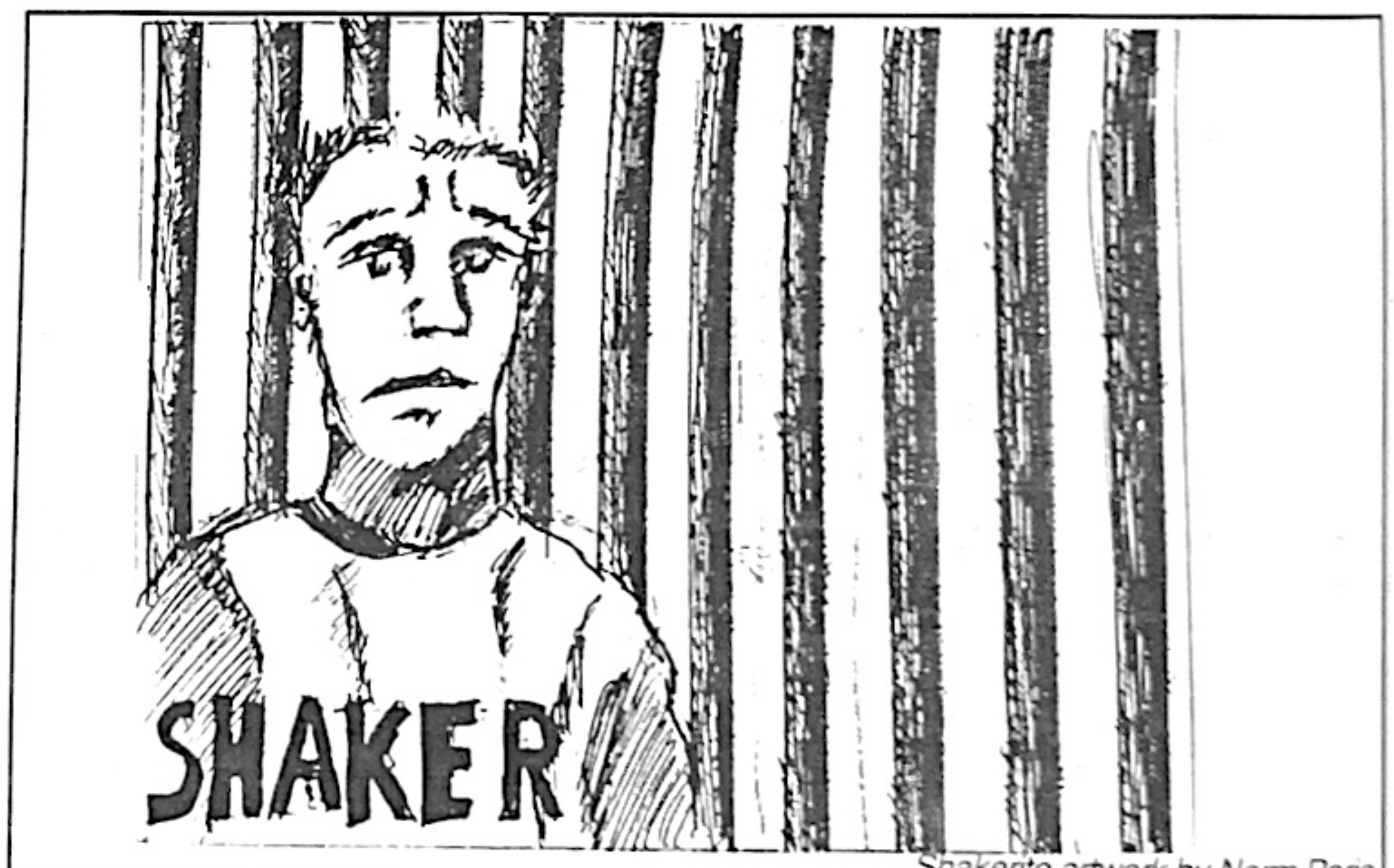
Since Death Row was founded by Knight and Dre in '92, it has sold more than 15 million records and grossed more than $100 million. This money is now being used to bail Shakur and Snoop Doggy Dogg out of jail and will probably be used to defray Dogg's legal expenses. This is where fans, including Shaker students, come in. The only reason rappers are able to get away with these crimes is because they have enough money from fans buying their records to fight off any court cases against them. They feel invincible, and they think they can keep committing violent acts. This belief, as ludicrous as it may seem, is not entirely illogical– anyone can get away with anything they want in the American justice system if they have enough money.

The only way to absolve ourselves of responsibility for these violent acts is to stop buying records put out by Death Row and to encourage others to do the same. Otherwise, we are just as responsible for these acts of violence as those committing them, for we are supporting these criminals with our own money.

Information compiled from "Does a Sugar Bear Bite?," New York Times Magazine, *Jan. 14, 1996.*

Society not responsible for repeat failures

BY RACHEL ZINN
Co-Centerpiece Editor



Shakerite artwork by Norm Paris

Several weeks ago the local news aired the story of a pair of 12-year-olds who deliberately pushed a younger child out of a window.

When such young children commit murder, society wants to believe they can be helped, but attempting to rehabilitate criminals who lack established values is futile. Most psychologists agree that character traits are formed before a child is five years old. If children grow up without respect for the law, then it is useless to try to instill morals in them through prison rehabilitation programs.

Rather than rehabilitation, prevention seems the key. We need to start again. Prisons are overcrowded, but that is no excuse to parole criminals who are repeat offenders. The legal system needs to be made more efficient to shorten appeals for condemned men so that criminals on death row do not wait 10 years before execution.

Society has failed, so many must be sacrificed to maintain order. It is time to admit that we have made mistakes and choose to focus on those that may still be molded to succeed.

Our civilization should focus on improving conditions and family life for those children who can still be influenced to do good. It will require much dedication to change the status quo, but repeated tries at rehabilitation only waste energy.

A similar philosophy should be applied at the school level. After all, school is a microsociety that should reflect the standards of society as a whole.

It is not the job of public schools to establish priorities for their students, but those who view school as unimportant cannot be immediately dismissed, for they may grow up to be a burden on tax-paying citizens. However, once the following steps are exhausted, it is clear that any further attempts to "rehabilitate" these students will fail.

Some students may want to do well in school but are too embarrassed to ask for extra help. Teachers should always call students in for conference period and make sure they understand the tutoring center is available after school. For those who have to work after school, teachers could find student volunteers who would help struggling peers at a time convenient for them.

For those who are failing or regularly cut classes because they are simply not interested, other options should be explored by the school system. Counselors should encourage these students to find out about technical schools, special job training or the military. All of these options are alternatives to a public education which allow people to lead productive lives.

Unfortunately, graduating from high school is often a requirement for pursuing other alternatives. If students repeatedly demonstrate no desire to pass classes, then the resources of the school should not be wasted on them. The school must expel those students who refuse to take advantage of the opportunities given them.

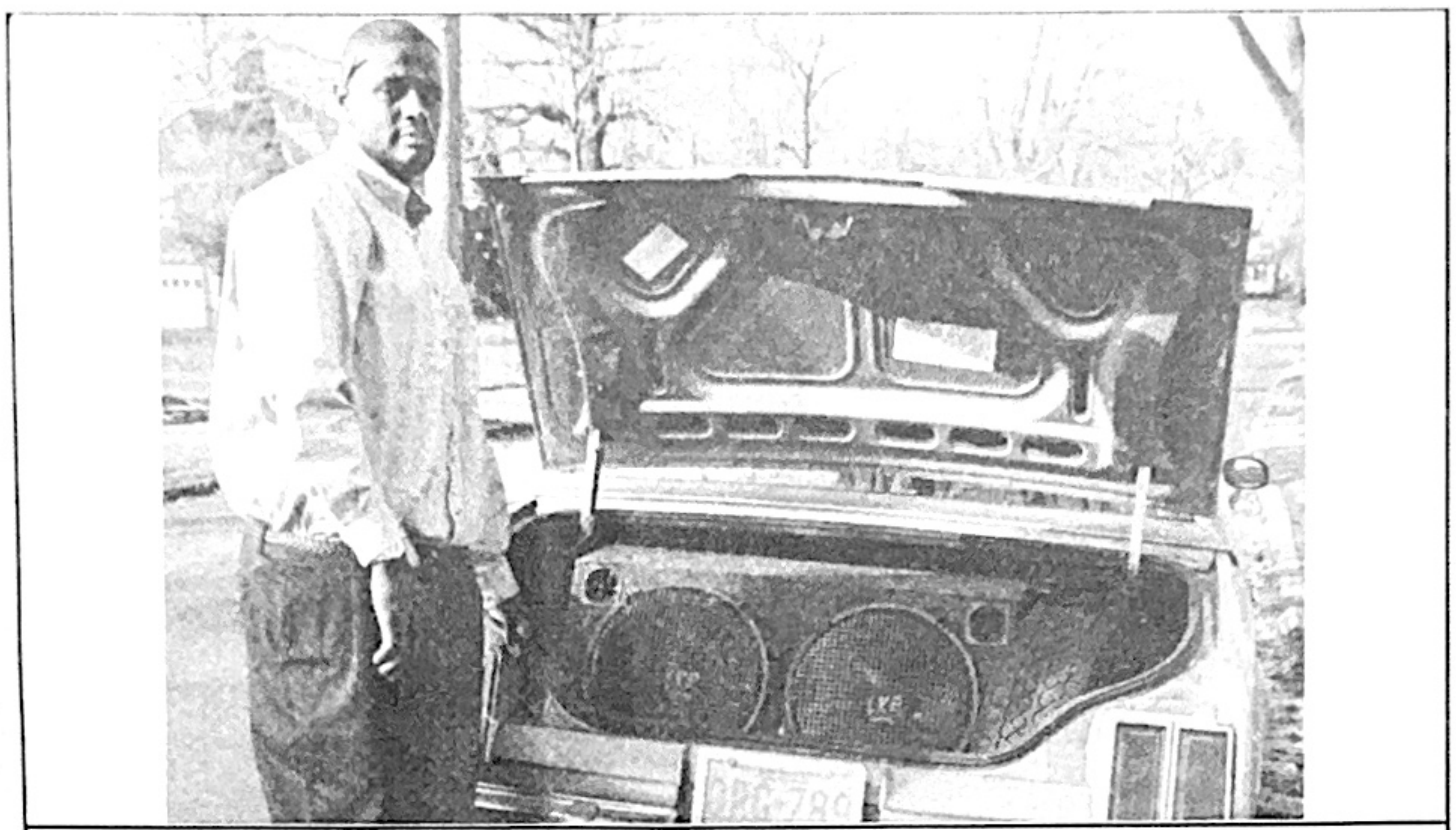
It is disturbing to imagine the future students who are shut out of public education, but public schools with limited space and teachers cannot concentrate on helping a few deviants instead of giving others the attention they deserve.

We must focus on improving society as a whole instead of wasting resources on lost causes.

Unfortunately, it is probably too late for the two little boys who grew up without knowing the value of life. Do we want another generation of innocents to end up the same way?

The Top Five Reasons Students are Smarter Than Teachers

1. We only come because we have to.
2. We do all the creative work, they just grade.
3. We would never put up with a bunch of obnoxious teenagers.
4. We would stop all that nonsense outside the science wing.
5. We would never let the *Shakerite* staff print stupid things like this.



SHOWOFF! Senior Aaron Payne struts in front of his souped-up, trunk-popping, bass-booming, ear-splitting, pavement-shaking mobile audio extravaganza. *Shakerite photo by Laura Kushnick*

School talent on the road to fame

BY AARON GALVIN
Staff Reporter

Some students and teachers at the high school have more than homework and grading papers to do when they get home– a number of familiar faces are on the road to success in the entertainment industry. From singers to artists to actors to DJs, one of the people facing you at lunch might soon be facing you on a TV screen.

One teacher making his way into the entertainment industry is Spanish teacher Robert Weaver. Educator by day and disk jockey by night, he is a part time student at Cleveland State University, where he hosts a radio show called DubStyle. DubStyle airs on the CSU radio station WCSB 89.3 FM and features mostly reggae beats with a touch of salsa and calypso music. Weaver is currently enrolled in the communications school at CSU and said he enjoys the freedom he has on the show.

"I like to DJ as a hobby, but probably not as a career," Weaver said. "I like the station because I can program my own show and play what I want."

Some other successful Shaker musicians are in the R&B group MT5. This group recently signed a record deal with Arista Records. Their first album is due for release in late spring. MT5 is composed of the five Thomas brothers, including sophomore Marvin and junior Marcus. The Thomas family recently moved to the Shaker district, and Marvin and Marcus are members of the A Cappella choir. The brothers said they have been singing all of their lives because as young children their father was a minister.

"We've always been spiritually minded. I'm just glad we're finally starting to hit it big," Marcus said.

Another Shaker musician is junior Marvelous Miles. Miles has been singing in the R&B group Just One of the Girls since it was founded in '89. *The group is on the record label East West Atlantic, which has produced such artists as En Vogue, MC Lite and Das Efx. They have* recorded one album so far, and their videos can be seen on Black Entertainment Television (BET) and Video Soul.

CD stores offer more than just music

BY SARAH LEVIN
Staff Reporter

Noticed lately that you've been spending more money paying for the gas to go find a store with cheap CDs than you've actually been spending on the music? If this situation sounds familiar, read on to reduce your gas bill and find those special CDs for just the right price.

Greater Cleveland offers every kind of CD store imaginable. From "alternative havens" like Record Revolution where you can find hair dye and hemp lip balm to more commercial stores like Best Buy, there's a store within 20 minutes.

Record Exchange is a CD store where you can buy new and used CDs for relatively cheap prices, or you can trade those old CDs you're embarassed to own (does Debbie Gibson ring any bells?) for cooler ones.

"How much you get for exchanging a CD depends on the condition and popularity of the CD. We look at how many CDs are in stock, and if it's newer you'll get more for it," Record Exchange employee Dan Messinger said.

Like most of its other more commercial counterparts, Record Exchange tends to put the newer, most popular CDs on sale upon arrival. They usually run for either $12.99 or $9.99. Regular prices for CDs are around $14, but prices differ for older CDs or imports.

Camelot Music is another music store found in Cleveland. It is different from Record Exchange because it does not offer used CDs or the option of trading CDs. According to Joy Anderson, a worker at Camelot, you can find just about anything you need at a reasonable price there.

"We do sell imports and bootlegs, but they're more expensive. Newer CDs are usually $1-$2 more than older, less popular ones, but newer stuff is often on sale because we get more of it in stock and want to get rid of it faster," Anderson said.

Record Revolution is the kind of CD store that falls right in the middle, between Record Exchange and Camelot. It offers everything from popular music to alternative to heavy metal and also sells things like clothes, shoes, posters and jewelry.

"Bootlegs and imports are about as popular as regular CDs, but they run about ten dollars more. There is a $3-$4 difference between new and old CDs. Older ones are 'supersavers' and go for around $10.99. New CDs on sale are on average $12.99," employee Michael Pierce said.

Shaker students have a wide variety of opinions on where they like to buy their CDs.

"A CD is a CD. If you want an old CD or don't care if it is used, it is better to go to Record Exchange, but I personally don't care," junior Yoon Hwang said.

Junior Leslie Zappala said she prefers buying CDs at less specialized, cheaper stores.

"I like buying CDs better at places like Best Buy, because if there is something you want at Record Exchange or Camelot, it will still be cheaper at Best Buy," Zappala said.

Remember to check these stores out when you're buying CDs if your gas tank is on empty (again!), and your pockets don't seem to be getting any deeper.

RECORD REVOLUTION
321-7661

Boyz II Men:
II *$10.99*

Bone Thugs n' Harmony:
E. 1999 *$14.99*

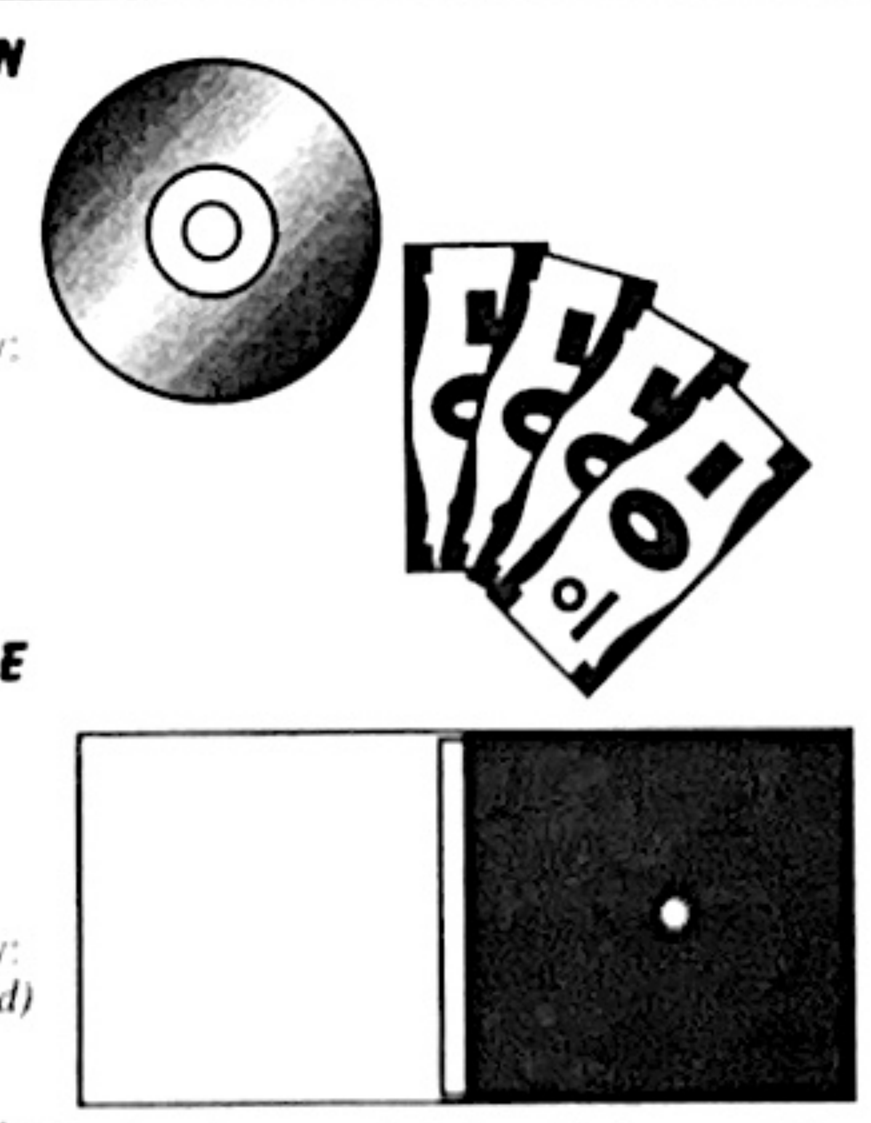
Greenday:
Insomniac *$10.99*

RECORD EXCHANGE
321-1887

Boyz II Men:
II *$14.00*

Bone Thugs n' Harmony:
E. 1999 *$11 (used)*

Greenday:
Insomniac *$9 (used)*



RECORD TOWN
464-6339

Boyz II Men:
II *$16.99*

Bone Thugs n' Harmony:
E. 1999 *$16.99*

Greenday:
Insomniac *$12.99 (sale)*

CAMELOT MUSIC
831-7268

Boyz II Men:
II *$15.99*

Bone Thugs n' Harmony:
E. 1999 *$14.99*

Greenday:
Insomniac *$11.96*

Shakerite graphic by Rebecca Marshall

KIP'S PIKS

New movies a waste of money

Here comes my hopelessly deplorably unprofessional interjection: when I write these columns I feel like the radio broadcaster in *Northern Exposure*. He always gave an entertaining glimpse into the crazy forces behind the universe and a portrait of people and their feeble attempts to deal. Like him, I spew out contemplative rhetoric, not as though anyone cares, but just for the hell of it.

OK, so this has nothing to do with the central thought of my article. In fact, my article has no central thought. I'll level with you: I have not seen a movie in months. And I'm scared. And helplessly alone. I have been physically attacked by my editors, more than once.

And I'm powerless to fight back. I'm just a frail, oppressed reporter– how can I fight the iron-fisted, spastically violent Jessica Weeks or the smooth-talking Miles Berger? They have such clout, and all I have is a lot of hair, which serves as a gimmick. Dear God, what will become of me?

So anyways, I thought this would be enough. I thought I could write a humorous article, albeit short, and they would leave me alone. But no! They said *that articles have to have points, and I had better find one, or else!*

So here's the point: this issue I will give new meaning to the phrase "Kip's Piks." I intend to pluck from the mire of the movie industry an actor, a theatre, and a movie that are worthy of our free time and our excess pennies. To do this, you must see. You must see the blockbuster hits for what they are. You must feel a strong and urgent disdain for the Oscars. You must learn the repulsive nature of hype. I cannot supply this level of enlightenment. Look within yourself. When you are there, you shall know it. Then you shall come with me to find the chosen ones.

The actor is Jackie Chan. He has lowered himself to hype, and his movie has fallen to the Hollywood formula. Yet he is the only true action hero. He does his own stunts. And he relies on himself, not careful planning or precise timing, but the body's instinct to preserve itself from severe harm and the innate knowledge of how to best do so. In short, he is a crazy little dude. He is worthy.

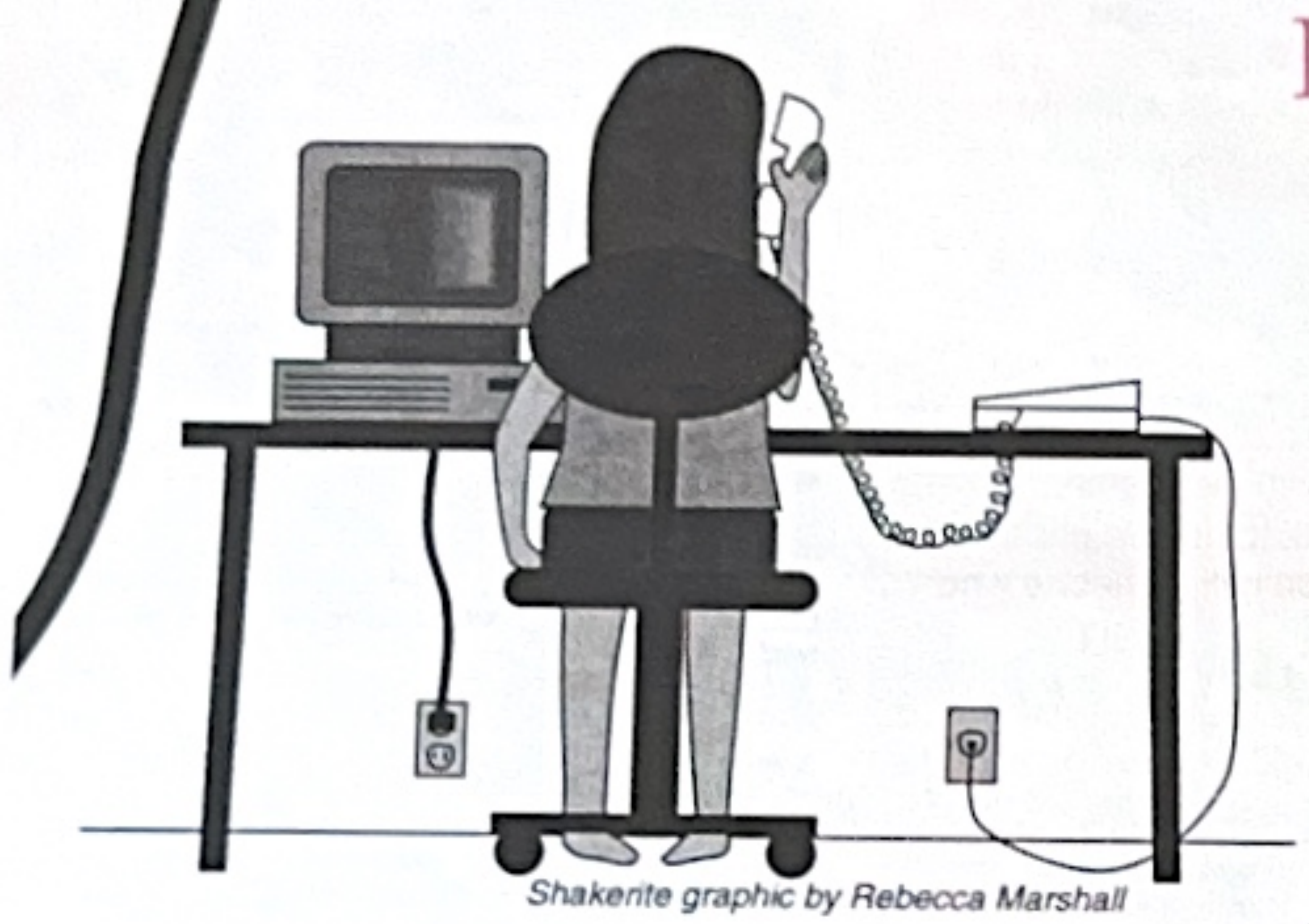
Let us consider theatres. Loehmann's. Cupholders in every seat. Good. THX sound. Fine. Seats and theatres decorated in purple, a color the emporer alone is privileged to wear. Nice. Ten movies. OK. A dollar-fifty bargain prices. Most excellent. However, it is in Willoughby. Bad. Offers lame movies. Again, bad. Crowded. Bad. Has Front Row Joe, a cat, for a spokesperson. Interesting. It is not the chosen one.

The only theatre of worth is the Cedar-Lee. Because it tries. It tries to uphold the trust of movie lovers, to offer the best, to protect from conformity. This is the place that caters to the art of film, as opposed to the money-grubbing mall movies that shovel mass-produced, ultra-hyped, uninspired garbage into the eyes of the general zombie public, to whom anything would look good after 10 hours of MTV a day.

The chosen movie is...I don't know. We must continue to search. It's out there.

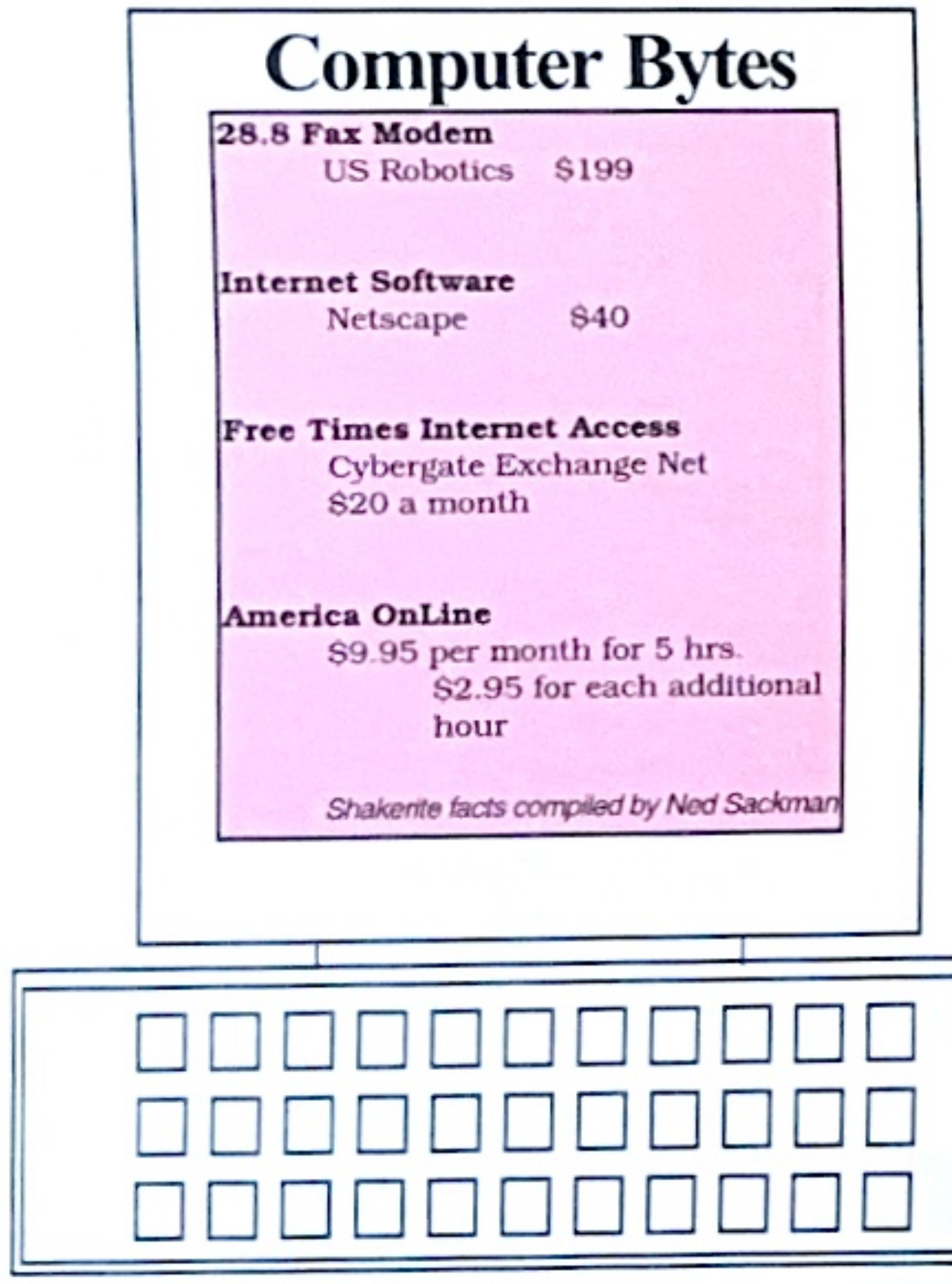
–Kip Br

GENERATION TECH



Shakerite graphic by Rebecca Marshall

Every generation has its own unique traits and tools. We have entered the Computer Age, and those who adapt will have an advantage over those stuck in the past with their typewriters and record players blaring.



Computer Bytes

28.8 Fax Modem
US Robotics $199

Internet Software
Netscape $40

Free Times Internet Access
Cybergate Exchange Net
$20 a month

America OnLine
$9.95 per month for 5 hrs.
$2.95 for each additional hour

Shakerite facts compiled by Ned Sackman

Surfing the Net:

not just for hackers anymore

BY NIKI DORSKY
Staff Reporter

Until recently, surfing was strictly an outdoor activity. But hey, in the 90s anything is possible– including surfing in the comfort of your own home with people from all around the world.

"Surfing" is a term used to describe exploring the different forms of communication a computer Internet has to offer. The Internet is a communication system accessed via the combination of a telephone and a computer which enables the user to send and receive information, documents and messages throughout the world.

With the frequent creation of new computer programs, uses for the Internet are constantly increasing. For some, it is a means of researching, shopping or just chatting. For others, like sophomore Chris Bricker, it is a way of "having fun while making money."

Bricker provides locals with Internet access through the five computers and 25 phone lines linked together inside his home.

"Through my service, people can contact other Internet users from anywhere they want. They can be as close as Cleveland Heights or as far away as Australia. It doesn't matter," Bricker said.

Although Bricker's service requires a fee, most of the money he earns must be paid to the larger, more established computer networks from which Bricker buys the ability to run his own Internet. Profits are "put back in" to his computers to keep them up to date with the latest technology.

"I do this more for personal gain than anything financial. I like working with computers, and I know a lot about them so this just gives me a chance to put what I know into good use," Bricker said.

Bricker is not the only Raider who has become good friends with the Internet. Social studies teacher Diana Jones and her computer have also developed a close relationship during the past few years.

Whether she is e-mailing relatives, talking with former and present students, or keeping track of stock portfolios, Jones has found the Internet an efficient source of information and communication. It allows her to view the tests and lesson plans of other educators and answer student questions.

"Unfortunately for my students, though, my tests are not floating around the Internet. I'm a bit more cautious than that," Jones said.

The Internet can also be used for recreation. There are thousands of "rooms" which a user can enter to converse with people of diverse backgrounds and interests. Many students find the Internet an easy way to keep in touch with friends and family from out of town and a less intimidating way to meet new people.

Junior Maria Lind spends a lot of time on the Internet sending messages and letters to both old and new friends.

"The Internet is not only a good way to keep in touch with all the people I know who don't live in Cleveland, it is a really great way to meet new people. In fact, my friend who goes to Cleveland State met her current boyfriend on the Internet and is going to New Zealand to visit him in a couple of weeks. If it wasn't for the Internet, she would never have met him," Lind said.

Sophomore Tim Stentas also met his present girlfriend through the Internet. The two have been going out for several months but have never met in person. Stenta says he is "somewhat shy," so the Internet makes socializing more comfortable.

"The only catch to this whole Internet thing is that I have never actually seen my girlfriend. She could be like 10 years old or be really gross and dirty for all I know, and I might never find out," Stenta said.

So, as surfing makes its indoor debut, society's ability to release and obtain information is stretched to new horizons. Where we go from here will be entirely dependent on imagination, for our generation will someday rule the Internet.

Just a Phone Call Away

Phones now provide services for both help and fun. Here is the real story on a few of the numbers you can call.

Together Hot Line
This line deals with all sorts of problems, and is usually used by those who just want to talk. Caters to mostly adult audience.
☎☎ Call 721-1115

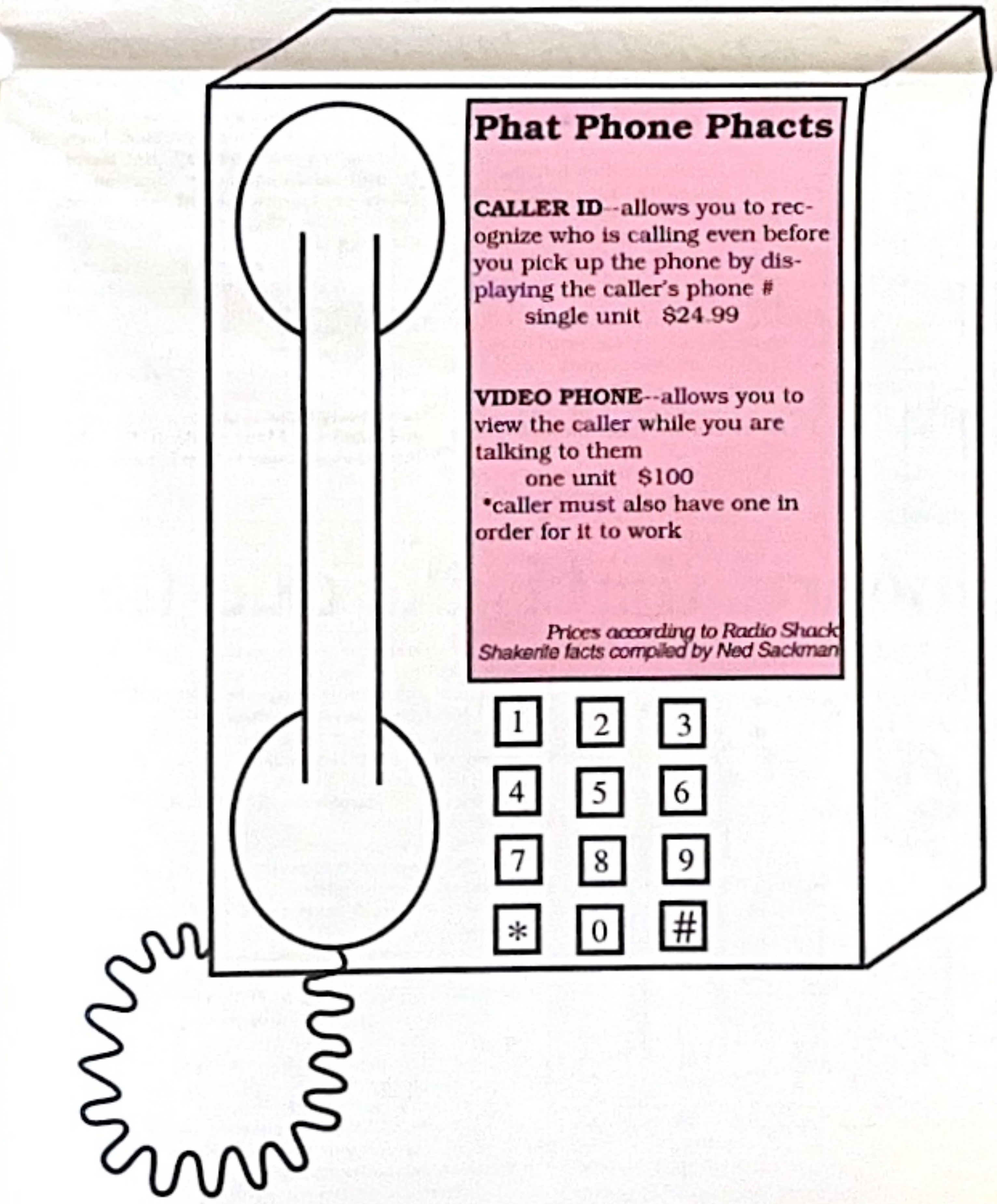
Custom Connect
The Ameritech Yellow pages provides this service. Just look up your 4 digit code in the phone book and you can call for anything from horoscopes to concert information. Best of all, it's free!
☎☎☎ Call 771-4070

Laurelwood Hospital & Counseling Centers
This 24 hour hotline is for any victim of crime, and mostly deals with rape and child abuse victims. They will call the police or make sure you can get to the hospital. They are very in touch with teen needs.
☎☎☎ Call 953-3260

La Toya's Psychic Network
This costs $3.99 per minute and won't even talk to people under 18. Why would you call someone who won't even take your money?
☎ Call 1-800-358-1981

☎☎☎ You gotta call!
☎☎ Pretty useful.
☎ Waste of time.

Shakerite Box by Rachel Zinn



Phat Phone Phacts

CALLER ID--allows you to recognize who is calling even before you pick up the phone by displaying the caller's phone #
single unit $24.99

VIDEO PHONE--allows you to view the caller while you are talking to them
one unit $100
*caller must also have one in order for it to work

Prices according to Radio Shack
Shakerite facts compiled by Ned Sackman

Just the fax, ma'am!

BY NICOLE SUTCLIFFE
Co-Feature Editor

Years ago children would string two cans together and call it a telephone. Nowadays, kids would not consider using anything without batteries. With the current surge of pagers and cellular phones, communication has reached new levels beyond what any past generations imagined.

According to Danny Lee, a salesman at Pagers Plus, the images of pagers have changed through the ages. He attributes this opinion to the change in cost and availability of buying a pager. Senior Jessica Bilsky said she agrees.

"[Pagers] have become cheaper to buy, and people think they are cool to have," Bilsky said.

Sophomore James Boyd and freshman Jermaine Clements said pagers are necessary in order to keep in touch with peers and parents.

"It is a part of the future in communications because it enables more people to get in touch with everyone else. You need to have them as a way for parents to stay in contact with their son or daughter during the day instead of calling the school," Boyd said.

According to Bilsky, pagers are disruptive to class, and although in some circumstances parents require their children to have them, in most cases it is for the purpose of keeping in contact with friends.

Pagers can cost anywhere between $19 and $200, Lee said. Approximately 50 percent of the customers who come in and buy them are teens.

"They are cheaper than having a cellular phone and are easy to activate," Lee said.

> *"Pretty soon everyone will have a pager and a phone. It is more high tech."*
>
> *– Terri London*

Cellular phones are another form of technology coming alive. According to a salesman at Equalizer, the number of teens who own them is slim because you have to be over 18 in order to purchase them, and you have to have credit.

"Having a cellular phone comes in handy, not much for teenagers but, for adults, having a cellular phone is nice for help or work," Bilsky said.

As technology improves, according to freshman Terri London, the number of people who own pagers and cellular phones will increase.

"Pretty soon everyone will have a pager and a phone. It is more high tech, and they will be coming up with even better forms of these," London said.

With such inventions as video phones, Lee said he feels despite the positive changes of communications over the past 10 years, it will not have any major advancements in the future.

"Some improvements will be made, but for the most part we have all that we need," Lee said.

Bilsky agreed that technology will have some improvement, for there will always be changes, but nothing particularly drastic.

Some students feel actions such as the school's banning pagers is useless because the majority of the population has them anyway.

"Everyone brings them to school, and it is not a problem now. It will not go off in school because most people have them set on vibrate. You can call in lunch or during your free period. Not too many people will page you in school, because that is where all of your friends are," London said.

Other students such as Boyd said to suspend a student for carrying a pager is useless because so many students carry them around anyway and do not get caught.

"It is a waste of time to suspend them because people will have them anyway. You need to for parents to get in touch with their children during school. Suspending is not necessary," Boyd said.

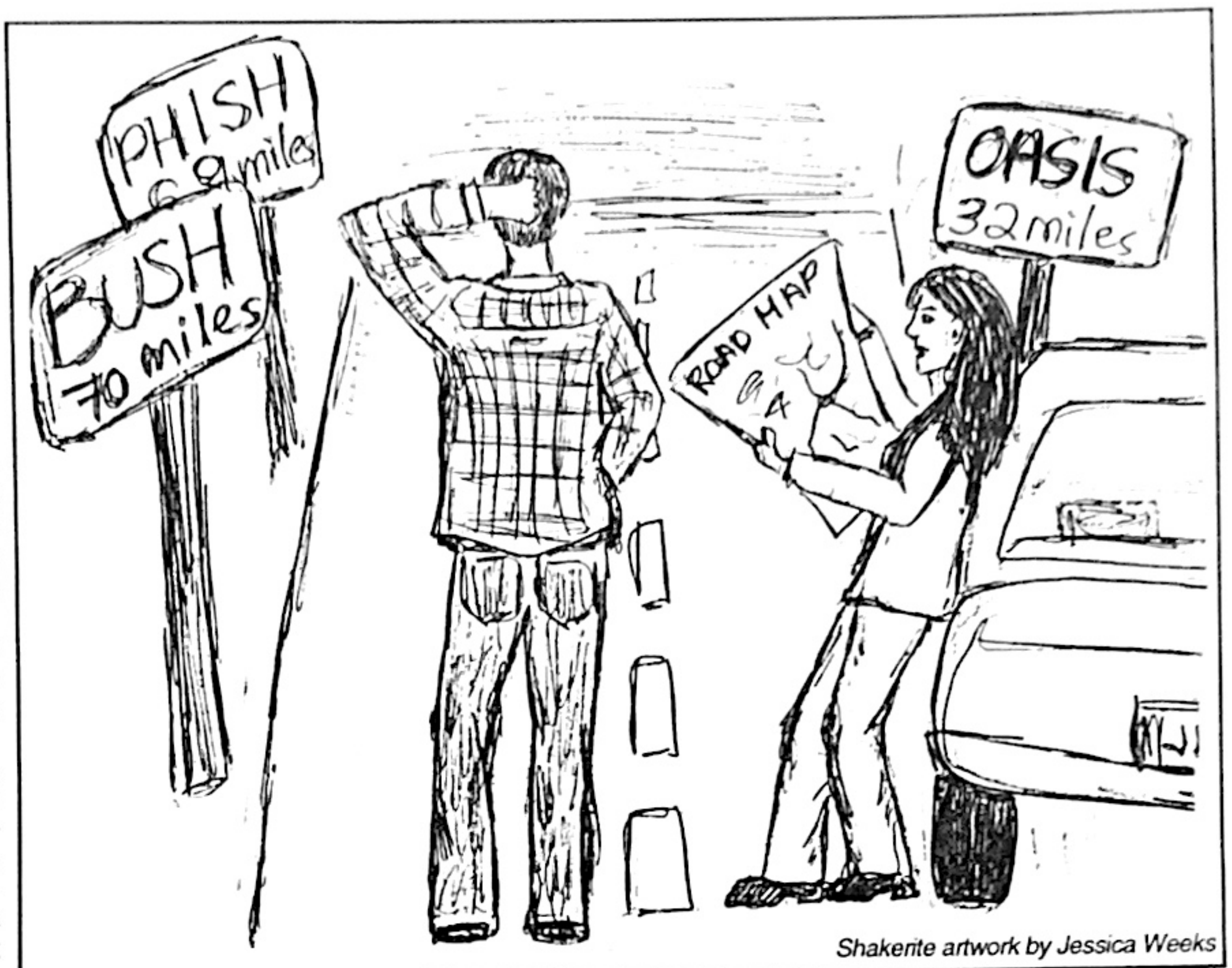
Shaker is not the only school to outlaw pagers, according to Assistant Principal, if you look at school districts across Ohio you will find the same policy everywhere.

"They are a distraction and a disturbance," Vlah said.

Communication has come a long way from the tin cans, and where it is headed only the future will reveal. As long as there remains an interest in technology, it will only thrive.

Fans in vans go see bands

BY MILES BERGER
Co-A&E Editor



Shakerite artwork by Jessica Weeks

"Rolling down the highway...looking for adventure." For many Shaker students, this adventure is found by travelling to rock concerts in other cities.

"It's fun to go on road trips with friends, and especially to see good bands," junior Jenny Mulligan said. "I'm going to see Bush in Columbus on March 3, and one of [my friend's] parents is going with us. It's not that big of an inconvenience to drive a few hours to see Bush, because they are one of my favorite bands."

Like Mulligan, senior Jake Fader travels to out of town concerts because he likes the music of the bands he sees.

"Some bands come and go, Billie Joe [Green Day singer-guitarist] doesn't know his guitar from his ass. Phish's music, though, is an amazing experience. Every time I've seen them, I've learned something new about music and the musical experience," Fader said. "I've been to shows all over the place, from Michigan to New York and all over Ohio. When you're truly into the music, seeing the bands once a year when they come to Cleveland isn't enough, so you spend five hours and drive to wherever they are playing."

Although he goes to concerts mainly for the music, Fader thinks everyone goes for different reasons.

"A lot of people go just because concerts are big time parties. People feel liberated, because it's not a normal society. It's a way to get away from conformity; [concert crowds] are traditionally more accepting. At a Phish show, a guy wearing a dress would be accepted; people just wouldn't care," Fader said.

Although Mulligan enjoys seeing bands like Phish, she said she likes going to see bands like Bush because they draw a more diverse crowd.

"The group who go [to see bands like Bush] are not all hippies. The people have totally different views, and it's nice to see so many different types of people," Mulligan said.

Fader, however, said he feels the common bond between people at Phish shows, and other bands like them, is one of the best parts of their concerts.

"Music can act as a language, to express feelings that cannot be explained [verbally]. At concerts by bands like Phish, the music acts like a bridge that brings people together," Fader said.

Cosmopolitan the 'in' place to go

BY NED SACKMAN
Staff Reporter

Do your Sunday nights stretch ahead of you like a yawning spiral towards Monday? Do you wish you could get into one of those cool 21 and over nightclubs? Does the word Arabica make you retch? Fear not, the owners of the Cosmopolitan nightclub have you in mind.

Located on the side of a strip mall on the corner of S.O.M. Center Road and Willoughby Road in Willoughby, the Cosmopolitan is a 21 and over dance club that opens its doors to those under 21 every Sunday night and sometimes on other announced dates. Admission is $6, and a free coat check is provided.

The Cosmopolitan has become popular among Shaker students who want to get out of Shaker and meet new people but still see their friends.

"It's a place to see all my friends, hear good music and have a good time," junior Jill Webster said.

Sophomore Jed Wolpaw enjoys other aspects of the Cosmopolitan.

"I like the dancing, the atmosphere and the girls," Wolpaw said.

Inside the club there is a small pool parlor, some arcade games, a bar that serves non-alcoholic drinks and a large dance floor with a disco ball and strobe lights above it.

One reason the club has gained popularity is because it provides students with a fun place to dance without parental or teacher supervision but is still safe enough that their parents let them go. It has the same atmosphere as a 21 and over club without the risk of alcoholic beverages being involved.

"It's a better atmosphere than at school dances," sophomore Robert Klimek said.

Although the Cosmopolitan welcomes teenage business, there are some restrictions. Before they are admitted into the club, all males must empty their pockets and undergo a search by a metal detector. Also, there are bouncers who stand at the edge of the dance floor to make sure things do not get out of hand.

"I think it's ridiculous that they frisk only guys and not girls," Wolpaw said.

Other students think aside from the sexism, the security is fine the way it is.

"It's everyone's safety that they have in mind. I think the security guards are just trying to do their job," junior David Deming said.

To ski or to snowboard, that is the question

BY PHILIP TOOMAJIAN
Staff Reporter

Snowboard mania has hit the high school.

Just as mountain bikes began replacing road bikes, snowboards have recently begun to take hold of the ski market. According to the January issue of *Fortune Magazine*, there are now more than two million snowboarders, one third more than there were in '90.

Junior Brent Fuller has been snowboarding for two years and said he started because he was a good skier and wanted to try something new.

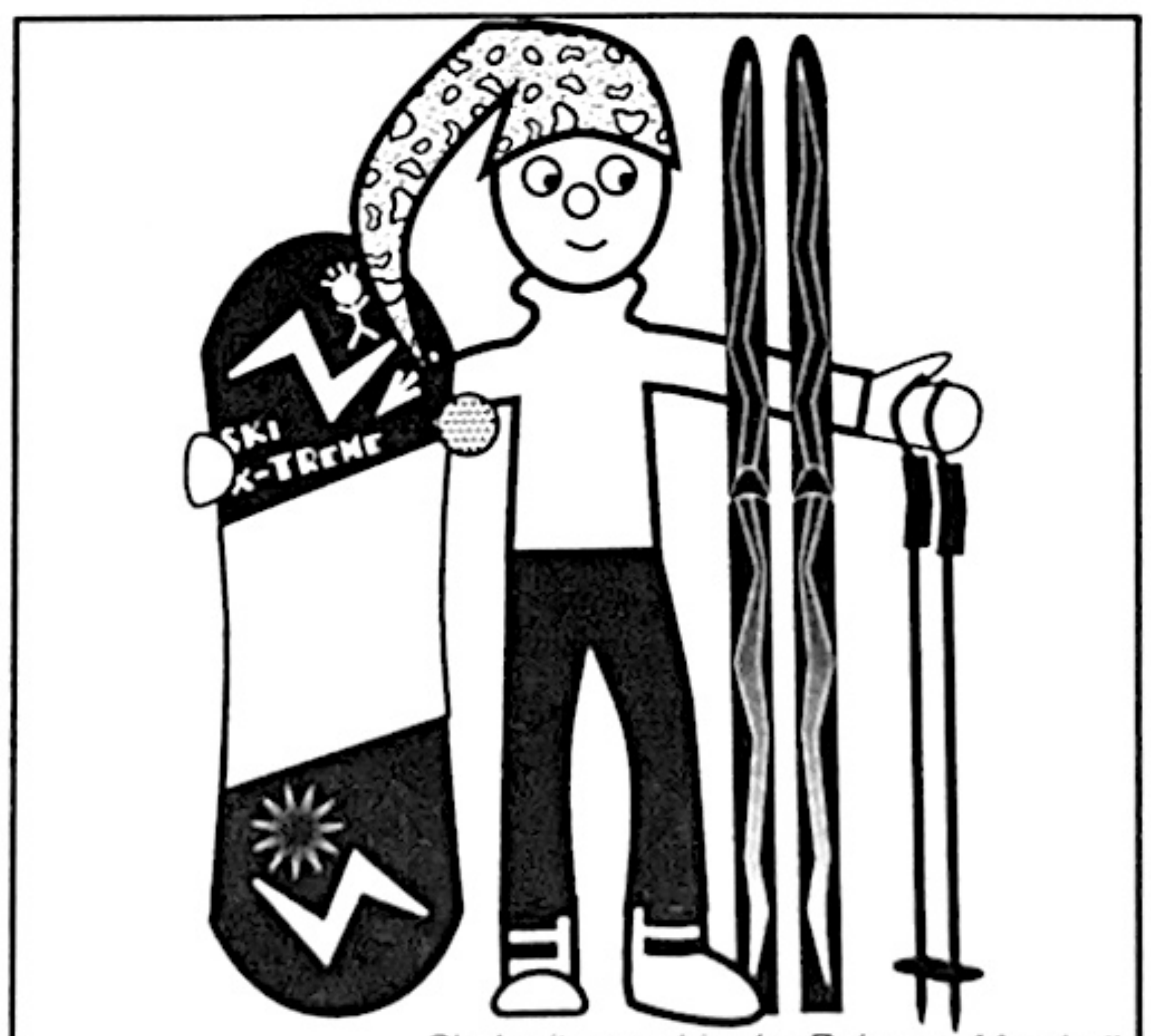
"If there are good conditions I'd rather snowboard, but if it's icy, I'll usually ski, because skis handle bad conditions better," Fuller said.

Junior Mollie Folkman tried snowboarding for the first time two weeks ago.

"It looked easy, and I thought that since I can skateboard it wouldn't be a problem. It was really hard and I fell a lot, but it was still fun," Folkman said.

Folkman said it is important to stay in proper form and to be prepared to fall.

"You have to keep your weight forward, bend your knees and let yourself go. I ended up really bruised, and I couldn't even get out of bed the next day, but I'd love to do it again," Folkman said.



Shakerite graphics by Rebecca Marshall

Freshman Thomas Fallon takes a special interest in the skateboarding aspect of snowboarding.

"I started because I was into the whole skateboarding/surfing thing. I think all skiers should try [snowboarding]. But it's not much fun until you get good at it and the mountain has lots of jumps or a half-pipe," Fallon said.

Fuller said the half-pipe is the best part of snowboarding.

"Whenever I go snowboarding, I always spend time in the half-pipe. It's really cool because you can do a lot of jumps and tricks," Fuller said.

Junior Jenny Skirball, a snowboarder for two years, said most skiers have a negative attitude towards snowboarders.

"When skiers see snowboarders, 90 percent of the time they flip out, but really, most accidents are the skiers' fault," Skirball said.

Fallon agreed snowboarders are unjustly labeled reckless.

"Most lesser quality skiers and older people have bad attitudes [towards snowboarders] and think we are out of control, but we aren't," Fallon said.

Snowboard boots and bindings come in both hard and soft packages.

"Hard bindings and boots are for better control, and soft bindings and boots are for doing jumps and other crazy things," Skirball said.

Snowboards can be rented at local ski areas like Alpine Valley, Brandywine and Boston Mills and purchased at The Ski and Sport Haus and The Bavarian Ski Haus. Both Brandywine and Alpine Valley have half-pipes.

What's Goin' On?

Spring season full of cool concerts

***Ekoostik Hookah**
Thursday Feb. 29, 9 p.m.
The Odeon, 241-5555

***Seven Mary Three, Poe**
Friday March 1 (Sold out)
The Odeon, 241-5555

***Oasis**
Saturday March 2
Lakewood Civic Auditorium, 241-5555

***Alanis Morissette**
Sunday March 3
Public Hall, 241-5555

***Civ**
Wednesday March 6
Peabody's Downunder, 241-0792

***The State,**
Wednesday March 6
The Odeon, 574-2525

***Red Hot Chili Peppers**
Tuesday March 12
Gund Arena, 241-5555

***The Rugburns**
Wednesday March 13, Wednesday March 20 and Wednesday March 27
The Euclid Tavern, 229-7788

***Ben Folds Five, The Customer**
Tuesday March 19, 8 p.m.
The Odeon, 241-5555

****The Moondog Ball: featuring Jerry Lee Lewis, The Platters, The Coasters and more***
Saturday March 23
CSU Convocation Center, 241-5555

***Foo Fighters, The Amps, That Dog**
Tuesday April 2
The Agora, 241-5555

***Radiohead, David Gray**
Monday April 8, 8 p.m.
The Odeon, 241-5555

***7 Year Bitch, Season to Risk**
Friday April 12
The Euclid Tavern, 229-7788

***Pansy Division**
Friday April 12
The Grog Shop, 321-5588

-Miles Berger

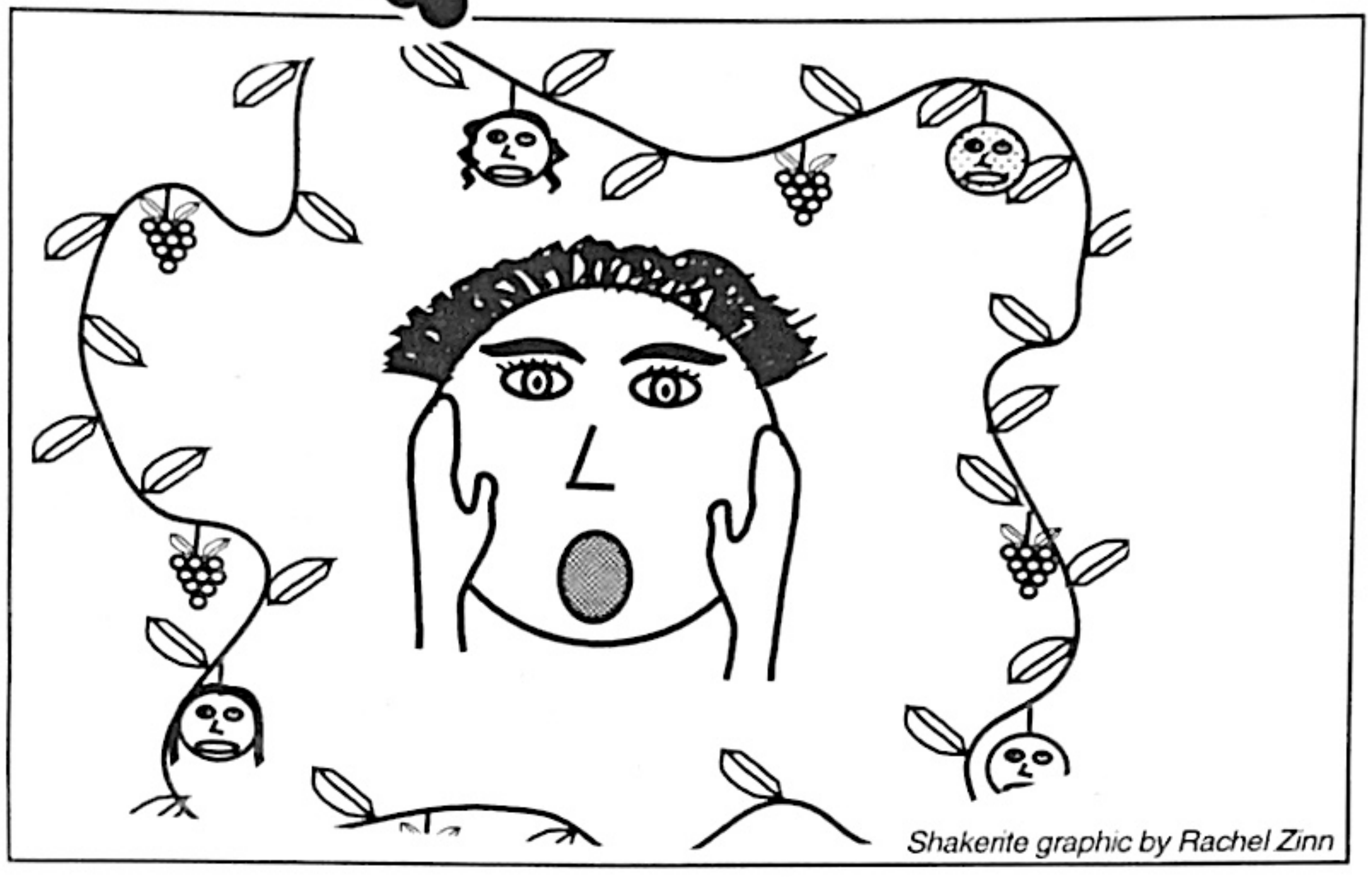
The month of February is:

Affair to Remember Month
Canned Food Month
Creative Romance Month
Great American Pies Month
National Children's Dental Health Month
Celebration of Chocolate Month
Responsible Pet Owner Month
Human Relations Month
African American History Month
American Heart

Shakerite source: Chase's Calendar of Events

Heard it through the grapevine

BY GEOFF DIETRICH
Staff Reporter



Shakerite graphic by Rachel Zinn

"Pssst, hey did you hear?"
"What?!"
"One of the foreign language teachers was arrested for handing out drugs!"
"No!!!!!!!"
"They're facing up to ten years!"
"Wow! Wait until I tell my friends..."

A topic this uncommon makes for interesting conversation, but it is based on rumor and speculation, all of which result from gossip.

"If you have not heard about something, gossip makes it more interesting to listen to. So it makes sense that gossip spreads from topics that are weird and different," sophomore Chris Myles said.

An out of the ordinary issue can spawn a multitude of rumors that spread through gossip. Such dilemmas like these affect students at the high school on a regular basis.

"Gossip is what our school is known for. It is like a big soap opera, there is so much 'he said, she said' it's ridiculous," senior Tanisha Jackson said.

According to some students, gossip still exists, despite the harmful effects, because it is in our nature.

"Rumors and gossip have existed forever. People want to hear the sensational, so normal things get blown out of proportion. The unfortunate thing is that the majority of the time it hurts those who are involved," freshman Chip Patterson said.

Some students feel gossip is so common because stories are spread out of proportion so easily.

"I think rumors get started because people over-exaggerate everything. I doubt people mean to be blatantly cruel, but once somebody says something, it gets spread through the school fast," senior James Town said.

No matter how rumors get started or spread, its influence can be overwhelming.

"I really hate gossip because it is unnecessary. All it does is cause problems; it can break up relationships between couples and friends," junior Nicole Anderson said.

The reciprocation of gossip, according to freshman Max Sprung, are at times more harmful than the actual gossip.

"Rumors end up as part of someone's reputation. At times they are as bad as the real thing. Gossip can hurt anyone, and it will never stop," Sprung said.

Some students feel gossip will always exist.

"I don't think we can get rid of it because everyone is so preoccupied with everyone else's business," junior Beth Banchek said.

At the high school, according to senior Amy Balser, rumors are spread in a matter of days, and it is not only girls who spread them.

"You tell someone something, and it is around the school in a couple of days. People think it is just girls who gossip, but it is guys, too," Balser said.

Recently one of the foreign language teachers was arrested for the illegal distribution of narcotics. Sound plausible? It is just a rumor; however, through the ears of people who believe everything they hear, it is true. This myth believing is the deadliest aspect of gossip.

Talent shines at Severance Hall

BY NAWAL ATWAN
News Editor

After weeks of demanding rehearsals for several hours each Saturday, the Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra and Chorus let their talent shine at the Severance Hall Concert on Feb. 18.

Fourteen Shaker students participate in the Orchestra and Chorus. The 102 members of the orchestra and 115 members of the chorus represent over 40 communities in northeastern Ohio. The orchestra and chorus are directed by director of the Cleveland Orchestra Chorus, Gareth Morrell. Both groups also perform with the Cleveland Orchestra.

The orchestra and chorus performed works from Mozart, Bartok, Bernstein, Holst and Beethoven.

Even though being a member of the Youth Orchestra is not always easy, sophomore Jennie Topilow thinks the commitment is worth it.

"The music challenges me. Being in an atmosphere with talented musicians is a lot of fun, although it's hard work," Topilow said.

Participating in the orchestra is a very valuable experience, according to senior Ari Maron.

"I enjoy working with extremely talented musicians. Playing repertoire pieces that I ordinarily couldn't play in a regular orchestra is a great experience," Maron said.

Spending time with people who share a love for music is something senior Daniel Williams enjoys.

"It's a lot of fun to be with people who have a common interest and love of music," Williams said.

Shaker students who participate in the Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra and Chorus are as follows:

Nawal Atwan	Chorus
Amber Chisholm	Horn
Robert Davis	Clarinet
Mollie Folkman	Second Violin
Marie Frisof	Second Violin
Kate Goheen	Bassoon
Tempe Hubbard	Horn
Dean Hulett	Bass
Dinesh Joseph	Percussion
Rachel Kibbe	Second Violin
Ari Maron	First Violin
Virginia Pierce	Flute
Jennie Topilow	First Violin
Daniel Williams	Clarinet

COMMENTARY

Class act: tips for program planning

As second semester goes by quickly, the time for program planning is approaching. While there are a number of classes you have to take to graduate, below is the first list of classes we highly recommend. In the next issue we will follow up with another list of classes unable to fit in this issue.

Modern European History:

This class is both exciting and interesting. It is taught through the use of text and visual aids, including a number of slides, timeliness and works of art. The class does not revolve entirely around lectures, and students have the opportunity to participate through debates, role playing and various games. I recommend it to anyone who loves to learn.

"After taking the class, I had a much wider base of education. It forced me to think analytically. I learned history beyond war and government," senior Virginia Pierce said.

Film as Art:

In this class, students learn film theory, the history of film and how to write critically after viewing films. Students learn a great deal about the director's vision and the various camera shots and angles that go into each clip. Expect to see a number of clips and several movies in their entirety. I recommend this class to students interested in pursuing a career in film or students who love movies and want to know more about them.

"Mr. Bender is hilarious and so much fun. You get to see lots of good movies, and you get a better appreciation of movies," senior Jessica Zagier said.

Journalism:

Highly recommended! Learn the art of newspaper reporting, interviewing techniques and page design. In this class, students gain a great deal of knowledge about writing effective articles that attract readers. Students also have the opportunity to do hands-on work and write for *The Shakerite*. I recommend this class to students who wish to see their writing published or students who are looking into a career in journalism.

"It makes you a much better writer, and it forces you to think more like a writer. It makes you better able to express yourself in verbal and in written form," junior Miles Berger said.

Ceramics:

Great introduction to pottery! Students are taught the art of sculpture using such materials as paper, clay and paper mache. The first semester is more of a learning period dealing with the basics of clay and design. The second semester is more of a hands-on experience, dealing with practice on the wheel and other pottery making techniques.

"Ceramics is a class where you can do whatever you feel. You can express your feelings through art. It is not strict or structured," junior Ashley Bauer said.

compiled by Debbie Libman and Leslie Simon

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STEREOTYPES

“You are what you wear”

BY MILES BERGER
Co-A&E Editor

Two college professors walk up to the front of a large freshman lecture class. One is wearing a crisp suit and is well groomed, while the other one has not shaved and looks disheveled. The responses of the students to this situation would vary just as much as the teacher's dressing styles, according to junior Khalem Watts.

"Everybody is always going to have something to say about how somebody looks, but I [usually] don't have a problem with how people choose to present themselves," Watts said. "First impressions are important because that is how people are going to reflect on you, but I try to give everybody a fair chance– it really doesn't matter what they are wearing."

Although he listens to everybody, Watts believes how people dress reflects on their personality.

"If you dress sloppy, it shows that you don't care what people think of you. I respect people more if they take care of themselves and don't look sloppy," Watts said. "Also, if you don't mix in, it makes you stand out and people will laugh at you. Those people who wear all black, I think they're crazy, but hey, that's them. It seems like they're a little loony, like they worship the devil or something."

Other students, like junior Jenny Dorsey, feel outward impressions can be deceiving.

"One of my best friends hangs out by the science wing and dresses alternative, and she has died hair, but she is one of the sweetest people I know," Dorsey said. "Everybody judges people on what they see on a first impression, but you should talk to everybody before you make a final decision about them."

Although students like Dorsey tend to reserve judgment, Watts still said he thinks it is important to present yourself well to others.

"I make sure that I stay in shape; that's why I stay in sports. I want to look nice, and I like being fashionable," Watts said. "I'm sure I wouldn't have as many friends now if I didn't take care of myself, as well."

> *What goes around comes around, because 25 years from now when we are out of high school, somebody else might have a good job and I might be a bum.”*
>
> *– Khalem Watts*

Both Watts and Dorsey feel, however, first impressions are much more important in dating and relationships.

"When I see a girl with her own fashion, with her own look, I think that is the type of girl I want to get to know," Watts said.

Some students, though, do not care how people dress or look so much as how they act. Sophomore Andy Campen said he does not really care how a girl dresses as long as she has a cool personality.

"I don't really care how somebody dresses; I go out with people who have cool personalities regardless of how they dress. But, there are some exceptions: if somebody wore all black and they really did worship the devil, then I couldn't see myself dating them," Campen said.

Campen feels first impressions can tell a lot more about a people than how they look.

"When you first see somebody, you get a feeling for how they act and what their personality is like as well as how they look. If somebody makes a fool of themselves, you're probably not going to go out with them, unless they did something really funny," Campen said. "First impressions only tell you what a person is really like half of the time, so I usually try to get to know people better before going out with them."

Like Campen, Dorsey tries to get to know people beyond a first impression before going out with them.

"First impressions always make a difference at first, but I always try to get to know people better," Dorsey said. "I prefer not to go out with people until I know them pretty well, which is why all the guys I have gone out with have been really nice."

Like Campen and Dorsey, Watts said he will talk to anybody regardless of his first impression of them.

"It doesn't really matter what they're wearing; what if I was in their shoes? What goes around comes around, because 25 years from now when we are out of high school, somebody else might have a good job and I might be a bum, so I try to listen to everybody," Watts said.

Playing the dating game

Everyone knows dating is not easy. From the mishaps of meeting the parents to the awkward silences before the goodnight kiss, we all have had our bloopers. At the time they will be embarrassing, but in the future, looking back, those moments when you wanted to die will provide hours of laughter. Below are some examples.

"I was walking in the metroparks with a date, and I stepped in dung. When I was washing my shoe off in the stream, a bird flew by and let loose on my head. My date was laughing the whole time."

–Anonymous

"I took my date to Del Rio's. She ordered the most expensive dinner there, and when it came time to pay the bill, I did not have enough money in my wallet."

–Senior Billy Zavelson

"I was on a date at Noggins. The waiter came to the table and asked us if we wanted ketchup. When he brought it out, he flipped it upside down to be funny, but it turned out the cap was loose and it splattered all over my date's new shirt,"

–Junior Megan Jones

"I had to bring my sister with me."

–Freshman Catherine Riffo

"One time I went to the movies with a girl who was wearing a wraparound skirt. As we were walking inside it got caught on the door, and the skirt was ripped off. I didn't know whether to laugh or just walk away."

–Sophomore Todd Horwitz

"We were eating dinner, and a piece of chinese food fell out of my hair."

–Anonymous

" I went out to dinner with a guy who was really conceited. All through the meal he kept looking at his reflection in a spoon and complimenting himself. The date ended early because he needed to get his beauty sleep."

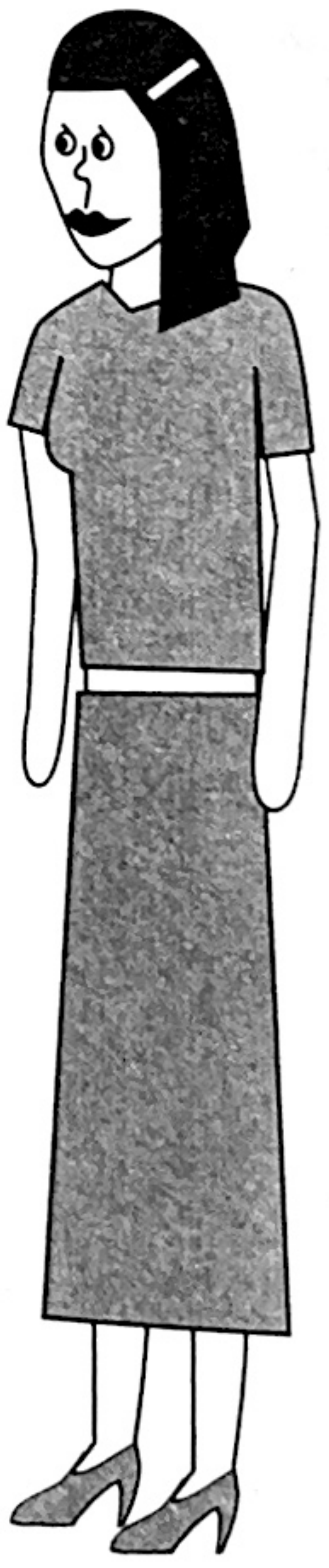
–Senior Tanisha Jackson

" I went to a carnival with this guy and it was really muddy. We were walking for some time and I looked back and he was not there. I found him far behind stuck in the mud. Everyone around us was laughing."

–Junior Lauren Breland

"I was dropping my boyfriend off at home, after we went to get food, and he was carrying a tray of drinks. When he got out of the car, he spilled the tray and pop poured all over him and his new shoes"

–Anonymous



Shakerite graphic by Rebecca Marshall

Quotes compiled by Anne Zrenda

Patterson lends helping hand

BY EMILY HOFFMAN
Staff Reporter

Whether it is surviving parents' phone calls, handling students' problems or working around a fractured wrist, Kathleen Patterson, guidance counselor secretary, is an essential part to the school.

"She is always friendly and helpful to us clueless freshmen," freshman Miriam Stone said.

For the past 11 years, Patterson has worked in the Shaker School District. She began at the middle school and was transferred to the high school five years ago. Her responsibilities as secretary include helping with the SATs, ACTs and PSATs, coordinating the visits of college representatives, registering new students, sending out mailings to students homes and doing work for the counselors.

"Mrs Patterson is a calming influence in the chaotic atmosphere of the guidance office, " sophomore Jed Wolpaw said.

On Sept. 21, Patterson fell down three steps in her home. In an attempt to catch herself, she reached out with her left hand and hit it hard against the wall, fracturing her wrist. Because she is left-handed she could not do the simplest work and consequently took a leave of absence for most of the first semester. She just returned after Winter Break on Jan 2.

"She is a great person to work with. I am glad that she is back," sophomore Rachel Myer said.

During her long absence, Patterson filled her time by reading, playing with her pets, listening to music and doing physical therapy.

"Most of my waking hours were spent dealing with this [injury]," Patterson said.

Patterson does physical therapy exercises for half an hour each night and will for the next year or two. She finds herself having new appreciation for simple tasks and for the use of her left hand. She was very glad to return to work, which she said she really enjoys.

"It felt great to be back. I was so sick of being at home and having no one to talk to. I'm so grateful to be able to work," Patterson said.

The job of the office aide is to deliver notes to students and file college applications, requiring them to spend a lot of time with Patterson. While she herself has no children, she looks at her office aides as her family. She likes to bring the aides treats on major holidays, always cider and cookies, to show her gratitude.

"I never considered myself a boss; we work as a team. I appreciate them very, very much," Patterson said.

Over the four years she spends with the office aides, she often develops friendships which last past graduation. Former office aides have been known to call Patterson from campus or to drop in to visit. These calls and visits are her fondest memories from her job.

"When students don't forget me once they leave, I feel that I made a difference," Patterson said.

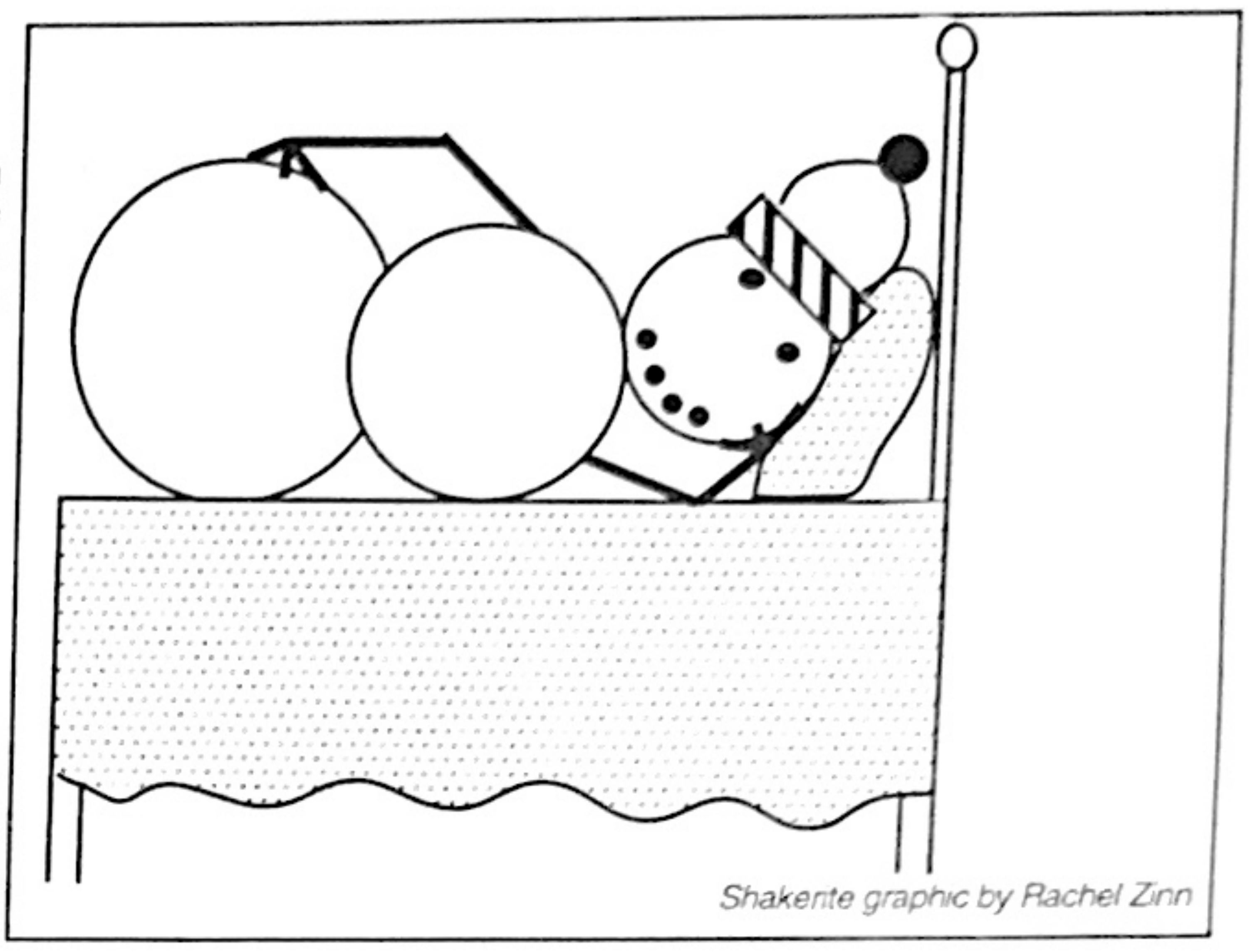
Several notes and cards from graduates are further proof of this friendship. An aspect of these relationships which she thinks is interesting is former students continue to call her "Mrs. Patterson" even though they have grown up.

Outside of school, Patterson has many interests. She enjoys sports, such as golf and bowling, and she also loves to read. She exercises and likes long walks, especially on the beach.

The phone will continue to ring, colleges will call, and a steady stream of students will visit Mrs. Patterson as she continues her daily tasks.

Let it snow...let it snow

BY LINDSAY CAMPBELL
Staff reporter



Shakerite graphic by Rachel Zinn

The alarm clock rings, and you wearily roll out of bed, fumbling in the dark for the light switch. When you finally adjust to the blinding light, you turn on the radio, and you hear the unbelievable. Could it be? No, not in Shaker Heights. A snow day?

When the fact finally sinks in, you climb back into bed and drift off into that dream the alarm clock had so rudely interrupted. Snow days, though rare, are definitely a great opportunity to catch up on sleep.

"I woke up at 11 a.m. and did just nothing for the next hour. At noon I just watched TV and ate," sophomore Eric Bahna said. " I accomplished the three main parts of a day: sleep, TV and food."

Some students savor snow days for the opportunity to do absolutely nothing.

"I spent my snow day doing nothing," freshman Beth Cullis said. "I sat around the house, I sat, I slept, I did nothing."

Sophomore David Hauser said he finds snow days relaxing.

"Snow days relax the mind because you have all this stress from school, and you can't deal with it," Hauser said.

Some students chose to take advantage of the time off and go out.

"We went sledding at the golf course with a couple of friends," freshman Marc Wood said.

While most students enjoy snow days, other students and several teachers were disappointed they could not go to school.

"I was angry we had a snow day because I had stayed up late to work on my paper and wanted to turn it in," sophomore Kristan Shenk said.

Biology teacher Kenneth Culek said snow days can be disruptive to a teacher's schedule.

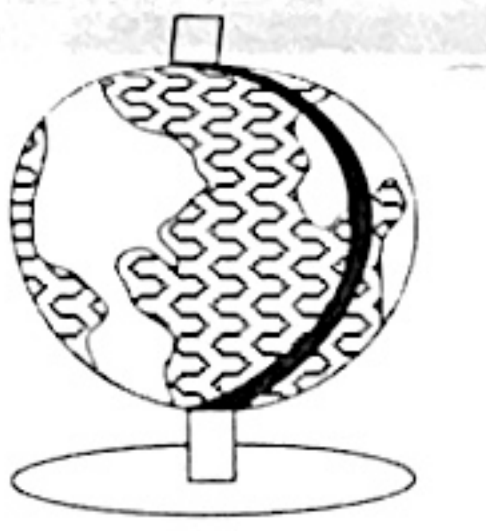
"It just means I have to work that much harder to catch up," Culek said. "Giving up that one day, as big a disappointment as that may be, is worth it to guarantee safety."

A common complaint among students is the late announcement of snow days.

"I woke up, and it didn't look all that bad outside. I was really [mad] about not finding until I was about to leave my house. Shaker really needs to notify news and radio stations earlier," sophomore Angelo Dicorleto said.

"I had already showered and stuff. I was already wide awake and couldn't fall back to sleep," freshman Alan Murphy said.

As you stare at the snow falling late at night, keep hope alive, for once in a while even Shaker will have a snow day.



Leadership changes; JCWA continues to win

BY LAURA CURTISS
Staff Reporter

The bus pulls lazily up to the school as members of Junior Council on World Affairs [JCWA] walk off tired after yet another weekend of competitions.

With math teacher Walter Slovikovski as adviser, the club has gone to many competitions. This year JCWA has been to as Michigan, Virginia and Chicago and will be competing at Cleveland State.

At these competitions, members compete against other high schools from around the nation.

"Members of the club speak in front of groups from five to 500 people at a time. People really hate getting in front of a class and speaking. JCWA is a club that makes speaking in front of groups much easier," senior Josh Penzner said.

According to Penzner, the club also encourages the members' skills in compromising and working with others. Competition is not the only fun part of JCWA, according to its members.

"The committees and sessions [at the competition] are interesting. It's a good learning experience, and it enables you to gain confidence. The fun part is when you are not competing you can hang out with your friends in the hotel or dorms," sophomore Adam Cole-Kelly said.

In preparing for the competitions, members of the club write position papers about the countries they are representing in the model United Nations.

Even though the club is worthwhile, according to freshman Sarah Bonem, it is a considerable amount of work, and the competitions are difficult.

"We go to two conferences a day and try to solve problems for our country. It takes a long time to get anything done because there is always a lot of discussion. The hardest part is that you have to always represent your country instead of your own opinion, even if you do not support it," Bonem said.

Prior to Slovikovski, math teacher Dennis Hogue was adviser. He took over the job in '90, a time when JCWA existed but lacked members. Three junior boys with Hogue's guidance got the club started again.

"The first year the guys recruited some freshmen, and it was a learning year for everyone. We had 10 members and competed in three tournaments. The next year, more freshmen joined, and the juniors who had resurrected the club were now seniors and in a teaching position. By '93, we had gone to six tournaments and won the University of Chicago [a very prestigious competition]," Hogue said.

The club eventually competed at the Hague in Amsterdam.

According to Hogue, many students become interested in world affairs from JCWA. Universities such as Cornell, George Washington, Harvard, and Yale look for students who have been involved in similar clubs. These schools have accepted many Shaker students who have been in JCWA.

Hogue decided to resign from advising the club a year before JCWA went to the Hague. According to Hogue, the club at this time had tremendous capability.

"When you give up advising a club, you want it to have potential," Hogue said.

Just as Hogue left the club at a very capable point in time, Slovikovski will do the same at the end of this year. Hogue will soon advise the club again so Slovikovski can spend more time with his family.

"It's hard to be away for an extended time. [The JCWA trips] are anywhere from three to four days. That's a long time to be away from a new mom and new daughter Maria. Someday, if the time is right, I'd like to get back into it," Slovikovski said.

Hogue plans to keep teaching members the skills of negotiating, speaking in front of peers, researching and paper writing.

"These are all prerequisites for being successful in college and life," Hogue said.

Next year the club will be a culmination of model United Nations and a model congress. According to Hogue, there will be a major fund-raiser next year to lower the cost of JCWA trips.

"Every time they go to a conference they have to come up with money out of their own pockets or their mom or dad's more often," Hogue said.

No matter who leads the club, JCWA members will continue to return from weekend competitions, tired, but wiser from the experiences they had.

SPORTS

FAILED PICK UP LINES

♥ Oh you smell so good.
At least someone around here does.

♥ I want to give myself to you.
Sorry, I don't accept cheap gifts.

♥ I want to be your first.
Sorry, you're two years too late.

♥ Haven't I seen you someplace before?
Yeah, that's why I don't go there anymore.

♥ I really like your style.
If you had any I'd probably like yours too.

♥ Can I buy you a drink?
No, but you can buy one for my boyfriend.

♥ I dreamed of you last night.
Did you get to the part where I reject you?

Shakerite Source: Seduction Lines

Hoops squad bouncing on despite adversity

BY TOM GELEHRTER
Staff Reporter

Despite several setbacks, the basketball team is the Erie Division Champion and have an overall record of 16-3. Wonson said the team has overcome much adversity since the beginning of the season.

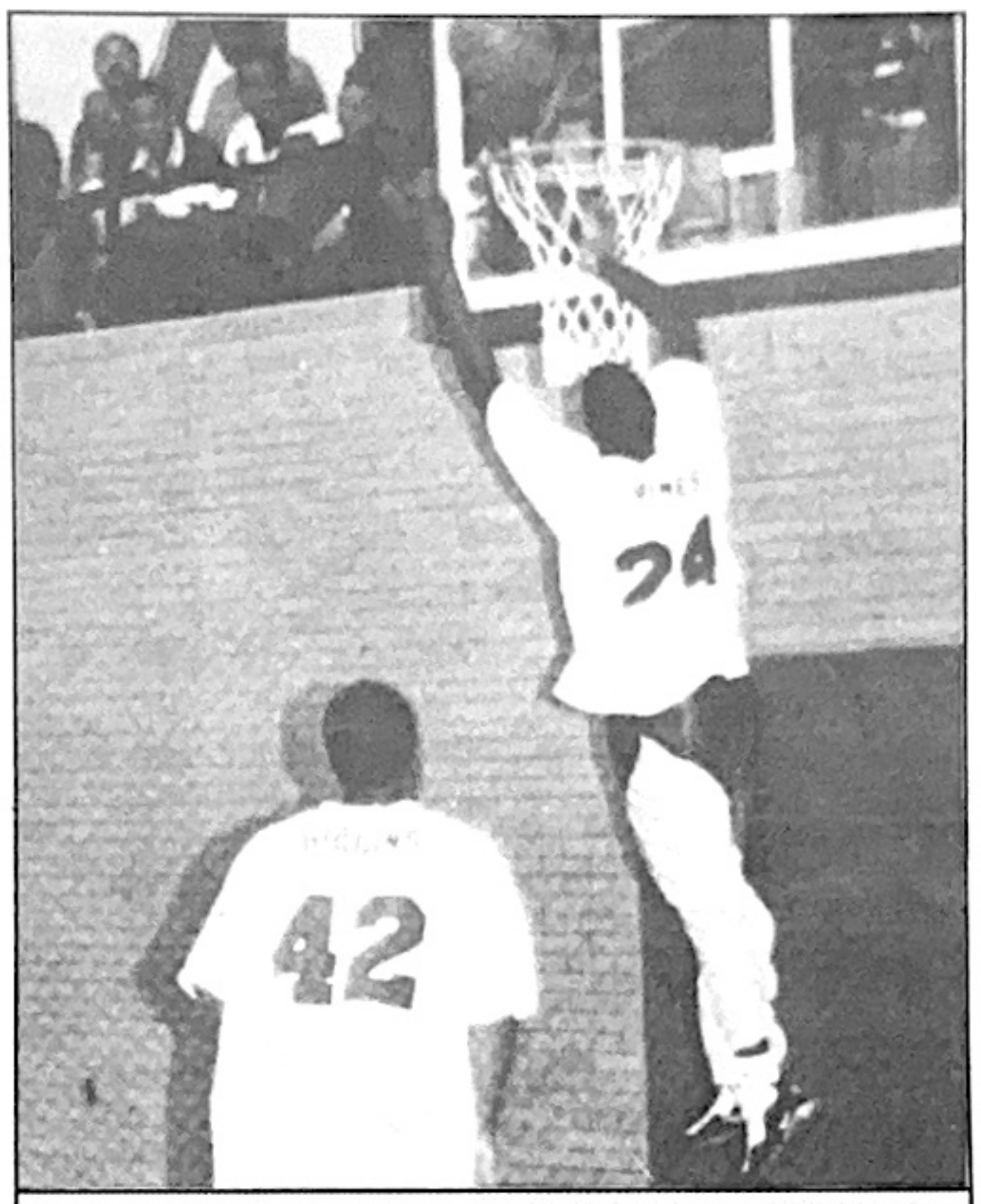
"There were four players that we figured would definitely be a contributing factor to this team, and now none of the four are with us," Wonson said. "We have had excellent contributors that have helped out a lot."

The hoop squad had an important contest on Feb. 17 at Shaker versus rival Cleveland Heights. Despite playing a good game, led by senior Jermaine Kimbrough's 24 points, the hoop squad lost to Heights 59-56.

"Cleveland Heights is the most talented team I have seen play all season. They are tough as nails," Wonson said.

Another disappointment was the loss of varsity basketball star Michael Sims earlier in the season.

Sims was arrested by Euclid police in mid-January after allegedly robbing and assaulting a couple.



GETTIN' READY. Sophomore Onaje' Grimes goes up for a lay-up before a home basketball game.
Shakerite photo by Cristen Means

The 57-year-old man and his 56-year-old wife went out on the night of Jan. 18 to cash a $200 lottery ticket. They ended up at ABC Cash Checking, where Sims and another male, a Shaker graduate, spotted the couple. After they had cashed their lottery ticket the couple returned to their Euclid apartment.

The victims did not know they were followed by Sims and his accomplice. As the couple was walking to their front door, Sims and the other man, both supposedly armed, approached the couple and demanded their wallets. According to the couple, Sims punched the woman in her stomach, and the man was hit on the head.

After fleeing the crime scene, Sims and his accomplice went to Randall Park Mall where they spent nearly $500 at Kaufmann's and the Finish Line on shoes and other apparel. They charged it to the couple's credit cards. The suspicious transaction was recorded by Kaufmann's, and the license plate of their car was written down. This served as the first clue for Euclid police.

In conjunction with Shaker Police and security at the high school, Euclid Police were able to arrest Sims and his counterpart. Sims was charged with two accounts of robbery. Bond was set at $75,000. Sims was transferred to Cuyahoga County Jail, and bond was set at $15,000. He was bailed out Feb. 2. The case is pending indictment.

Sims was not available for comment on the situation. Head Basketball Coach Bob Wonson refused to comment on the incident.

> *"There were four players that we figured would definitely be a contributing factor to this team, and now none of the four are with us."*
>
> *-Coach Bob Wonson*

Sims, along with teammate senior Shawn Wright, had already been removed from the basketball team by Wonson for discipline problems, and therefore Sims was not a member of the team when the incident occurred. Further troubles had already begun at the start of the season, when Wonson learned Rashon Brown was transferring to Benedictine and Alonzo Massenburg was ineligible.

BRENDAN VS. SCOTT

Round 5: Do worms cry when you put them on a fishing hook?

BY BRENDAN MASINI
Co-Sports Editor

As the summer months approach, Scott and I look forward to spending some relaxing days fishing on Lake Erie. As we contemplate this recreation we also must think about the welfare of the other living things that will be with us, the worms, and more specifically, will they cry when we put them on hooks?

To answer this we must clarify what type of worm we are dealing with. There is obviously no question that some of the tougher types of nightcrawlers would have no problem withstanding the excruciating pain of a hook, but for an average garden worm, even the thought of a barbed spike poking through its ribs reduces it to tears.

This was known even in ancient times as evidenced by an Egyptian poem which loosely translated reads

Worms are nice,
Worms are shy,
Stick it with a hook,
And watch it cry.

Somewhere along the line, scientists determined that just because worms have incredibly small brains and no eyes, they cannot cry. That is absolutely absurd. Last spring at a Shaker baseball game I witnessed a worm cry after it was mercilessly ridiculed by a newt behind home plate.

Seeing a worm cry made it painfully clear that worms have feelings too. In light of this, I have to wonder if every time I put a worm on a hook it starts to hate me. I really don't think that I can live my entire life in peace if I know there is an army of half-eaten worms waiting to get me when I get to heaven. I could handle a few worms, but I've gone fishing a lot, and if they caught me by surprise, those worms could probably hurt me.

Whether any individual worm cries or not, it is unreasonable to expect all worms to be able to control their reaction to the pain. Humans are generally regarded to be among the most adaptable and resilient creatures around yet every time someone is impaled with a claw and flung through the air into a lake, they die. To expect the worm not only to live but to not cry is asking a bit too much.

Remember folks, it's not just a worm.

Shakerite photo by Laura Kushnick

BY SCOTT FULLER
Co-Sports Editor

Brendan and I simply love to fish. It is such a relaxing pasttime: just lying back in the warm sunshine, the gentle roll of the waves lulling you into a peaceful slumber, the beautiful sounds of nature creating the symphony of life, the undisturbed...

"Scott," Brendan suddenly asks, "Do worms cry when you put them on a fishing hook?"

Brendan, Brendan, Brendan. Not only has he destroyed the wonderful tranquility of the moment, but he persists in showing his incredible ignorance concerning all facts of life. I cannot claim that I am able to speak with worms (if only it were true), but it is common knowledge that worms do not cry when they are put on a fishing hook.

You see, if you have ever been fishing, you are aware that the delightful calm I previously described does not exist forever. If you are fortunate, a hungry fish may wander to your hook and grab a bite to eat, unknowingly beginning a thrilling battle between man and beast. Fisherman pulls on line. Fish pulls back. This brutally simplistic struggle for survival is yet another enchanting element that makes fishing so thrilling, and this is the very same reason why worms adore it as well.

Competition. Glory. Honor. These are what a worm lives for, and these are what a worm is willing to die for. Being put on a hook and sent below the dark, frightening waves is the ultimate test of bravery, endurance and will power for a worm. Many worms do not suvive the wound inflicted by the hook. Others meet their doom at the belly of a ruthless fish. Still more fall to the bottom of the lake floor where they will sleep eternally. Although they know not what fate may lie ahead of them, worms are courageous creatures who face this challenge head on, and even those who may perish in the conquest would surely take the plunge again if they were given another chance. For if a worm were to survive this impossible mission, he would return to his home a hero. He would be forever envied by his fellow worms. He would be treated as a king. And he would become a legend for all time.

And yet here is Brendan asking if worms *cry*.

"No, Brendan, they most certainly don't."

"Oh," Brendan says. He goes back to fishing.

Raiders of the Month

NICK AGOPIAN

Shakerite photo by Laura Kushnick

BY LEIGH STEVENS
Co-Sports Editor

Scoring game winning goals and coming through in clutch moments is nothing new for senior Nick Agopian.

Agopian has been playing hockey since age nine. As a young player Agopian helped lead his team to the Nationals during his Pee Wee and Bantam years of play.

At the high school Agopian has played varsity hockey for three years. This year he started at the center position and was one of the team leaders in goals. He scored many important goals, such as the goal against North Olmsted that ended the last home game by the 10-point rule.

Agopian likes the fan support almost as much as he likes the game.

"I love it when there is a big crowd cheering us on. We all tend to play better when we know that our fans are behind us. There is nothing like the feeling of a big crowd cheering for you as you skate the puck down the ice," Agopian said.

Agopian's teammates said he showed great spirit this year.

"Nick was always pumped for the games. He always helped to keep us in the game," freshman Joe Simon said.

Agopian also plays hockey outside of high school. He was one of the select few chosen to play on Team Ohio last year, although his season was cut short when he dislocated his shoulder.

"Playing for Team Ohio was a great experience. I got to play with some real good players, and my game improved drastically," Agopian said.

Agopian also participates in the mentoring program and helps his dad coach a Squirt AA team.

Agopian is not soon going to forget his fond hockey memories.

"Hockey was a big part of my life every year. I always knew that from November to at least February I would be playing hockey daily. I am going to miss playing every day, and I am going to miss playing with my friends on the team," Agopian said.

The streak goes on...

The swim team doesn't have time to think about having won 46 consecutive dual meets

BY TOM GELEHRTER
Staff Reporter

Consistency, hard training and dedication leads to the swim team's amazing success over the past 14 years.

Currently both the men's and women's swim teams have won 46 straight dual meets. The women's team has won 10 straight Lake Erie League titles, while the men have won six straight LEL titles. Not only did both teams finish the regular season with a perfect record of 10-0, but the men's team won the North-Northeast District Championships at Cleveland State University Natatorium, and the women finished second behind rival Hawken.

The men's team became the first public school in 20 years to capture the District title. They were ranked number one in Northeast Ohio by *The Plain Dealer* even before their victory, and they most likely will maintain their ranking going into next season.

"Rankings are great, but they definitely do not win races," coach Ernest Welsch said. "Just look at the Cleveland Browns; they proved that preseason rankings mean absolutely nothing."

Freshman Paul Bosley also likes being ranked number one, but says they have to be careful.

"It's really exciting to be ranked number one, but we can't let the numbers go to our heads," he said.

The 46 straight victories streak started in Dec. of '91 after a loss to Hudson. Ever since, the splash-making Raiders have had very few close meets and haven't really been concerned about it.

"I don't really think about the streak, I just go out and swim," sophomore Chris Taylor said.

Welsch said the streak has never been seriously threatened.

"The competition in dual meets over the past few years has not been very tough, but you can't concentrate on other teams, you have to concentrate on your team," he said.

Concentrating on the team is something that the Raiders do well. A lot of the swimmers get up early in the morning, go to practice, go to school, go back to practice and then finish the day doing homework. For most swimmers this process repeats itself for three or four months. Still others show this dedication for the entire year.

"The training is making me swim faster than I ever have before in my life. It's very exciting," junior foreign exchange student Volker Windeck said. Windeck finished second in the 200 free and fourth in the 500 free at Districts.

Welsch said he does not think about the team's winning streak but does feel it is good for the team.

"It's a nice thing, and it's very motivating," Welsch said. "It gives the swimmers a tradition to build off of and to try to continue. If somebody beats us and it ends, it won't be a big deal to me, but I do think that it is good for the team in general."

Junior Cara Barnard says loyalty of team members contributes to their winning tradition.

"Winning is fun, and it says a lot about the depth of the team. It shows how the amazing loyalty of the team pays off," she said.

"Good coaching and a dedicated team that practices year round leads to the team's success," sophomore Matt Keay said. He won the 100-yard backstroke with a meet-record time of 51.96.

The men's team also won the Shaker Invite, the Solon Relays, the Timken Relays and finished in second place behind Toledo St. Francis at the Toledo St. Francis Big-8 meet.

The women's team was Timken Relay Champions and finished second at the Solon Relays, the Solon Big-6, the Orange Relays and at the Shaker Invite.

Shaker's success has been very consistent after Welsch took over the women's program in '82. Since then the team has won 119 meets, lost 17 and tied one. Welsch's win percentage as women's coach is 87 percent. Welsch then took over the men's squad in '89, and they have won 63 meets and only lost four since then. Welsch's winning percentage with the men is an astounding 94 percent.

"We all knew that it is was going to be hard to win districts, but we were going to go out and fight for our title," junior Bryan Wamsley said.

Welsch gives a lot of credit for the team's success to the Shaker Sharks, a United States Swimming program that he started in the fall of '88.

"The Sharks have been a very positive influence on the program," Welsch said. "The swimmers are already very experienced by the time they get to ninth grade."

Taylor was helped by his early swimming experience.

"I was on a competitive team even before I ever got to the high school. That helped a lot for the high school team," he said.

States were last weekend, and were not finished in time for this issue.

NIESHA JARVIS

Shakerite photo by Laura Kushnick

BY SCOTT FULLER
Co-Sports Editor

The women's basketball team has had somewhat of a mediocre season, finishing the regular season third place in the Erie Division, 4-9 in the LEL and 8-12 overall. While the team had its good moments and its bad ones, senior captain Niesha Jarvis was responsible for many of the good.

"She is definitely our team leader," head coach Maleeka Valentine said.

This is Valentine's first year as coach, and she said Jarvis has made her introduction to the Shaker program a smooth one.

"She always trusts what I say," Valentine said, "She leads the other players by example."

Senior Ayesha Claytor, who has played with Jarvis for three years, had nothing but good things to say about her teammate.

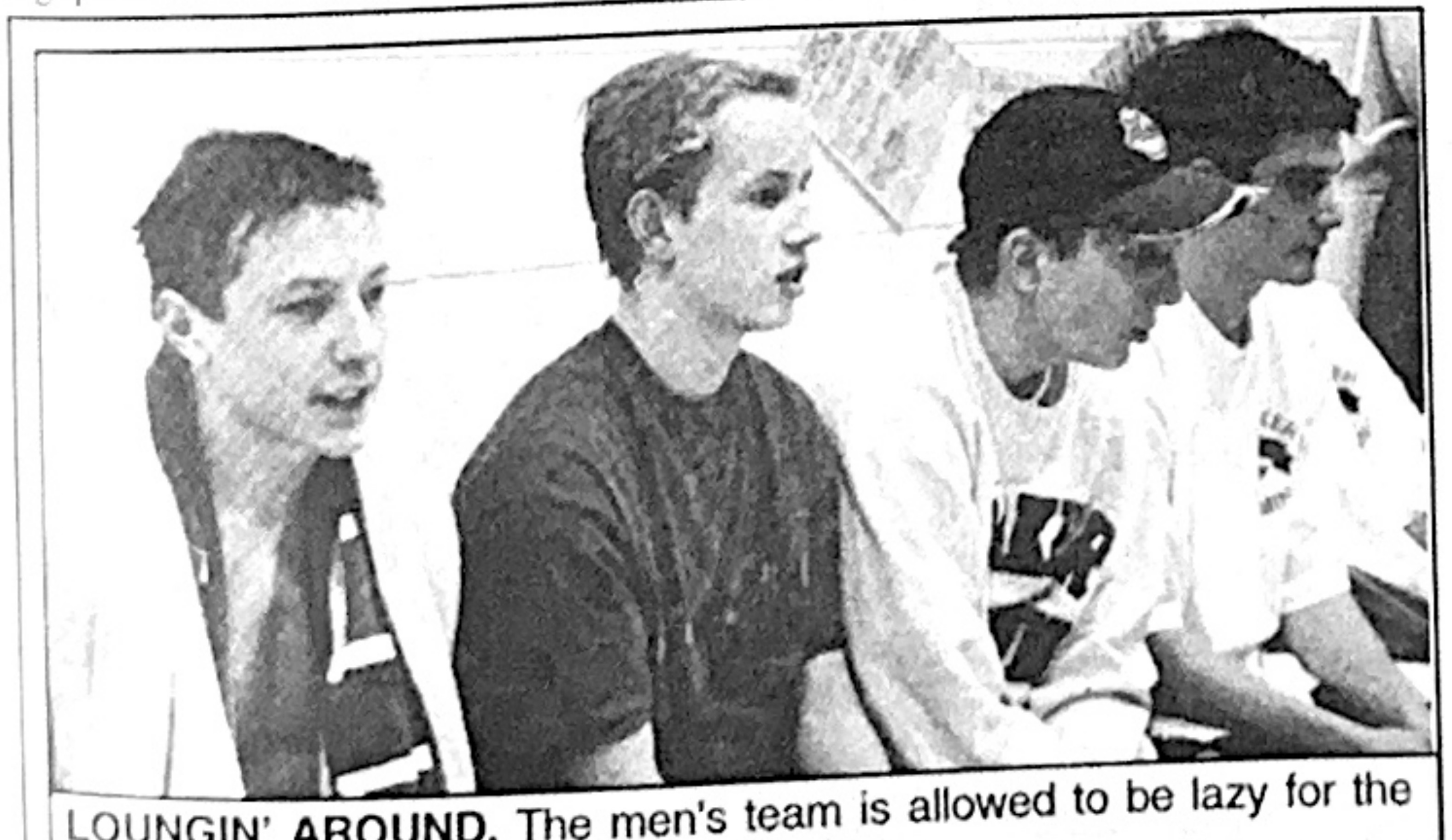
"Niesha is a big asset to the team," Claytor said. "She is fun to play with, and she is very supportive."

Claytor said she has has seen Jarvis progress tremendously over the years, from playing JV, to becoming a second string player on varsity, and finally to starting forward/center and leading scorer on the team. After 15 games this season, Jarvis averaged 11.5 points, 9.3 rebounds, and two steals per game.

Jarvis has worked hard to accomplish this improvement. She began playing basketball in the seventh grade at St. Henry's, and she has been playing ever since, attending camps like Jim Chones' Show Biz Inc. Basketball Camp in the summer of '94, Purdue University Basketball Camp, Cleveland State University Basketball Camp and the Kent State All-Stars Basketball Camp last summer.

Even those who have not played long with Jarvis have benefitted from her talent and leadership.

"I came up from JV, and Nene was always willing to help, whether it was working on the plays or helping me feel like part of the team," junior Lyndsey Mirmelstein said.



LOUNGIN' AROUND. The men's team is allowed to be lazy for the moment because they are District Champions.

Shakerite photo by Allison Beamer

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT. Sophomore Maura Malone and freshman Candace Hamilton take a breather from their rigorous training.

Shakerite photo by Allison Beamer

Wrestling team pins opponents

BY BILL JACKSON
Staff Reporter

Practicing pinning people and working on their other moves has paid off for this year's wrestling team.

The team has a record of 5-2 in the Lake Erie League Division.

According to senior Josh Greenspan, they are doing well considering the difficult league they are in, which features teams such as Cleveland Heights and Garfield, who they defeated Feb. 9.

The team has strong upperweight participants. Senior Kore Sharpley thinks that this strength has helped carry the team.

"We are kind of weak in the lower weights except for me and Heath (Butzer). We rely on the upperweights to carry the team," Sharpley said.

Sharpley also said that while their record is important, the thing he is most concerned about is what goes on in the postseason, the state tournament in particular.

Junior Matt Ciancilo, who was sidelined this season due to knee surgery, is optimistic about the future of the season.

"I am confident that the team will be very successful in sectionals," Cianciolo said.

Sharpley is happy with the overall team performance.

"This year the team is performing well and working hard," Sharpley said. "The team has done their best regardless of the personal records."

"Everybody does not have the individual success that they would like, but they all have put forth 100 percent effort," he said.

Captains Sharpley, Ben Greenspan and Josh Greenspan lead the team with 18 wins each. Josh Greenspan and Butzer lead the team in pins.

Women's b-ball 'rebuilding'

BY BILL JACKSON
Staff Reporter

With a record of 8-12 at the end of the regular season, the girls basketball team is going through a rebuilding year according to senior point gaurd Ayesha Claytor.

Claytor said the players to watch out for are senior center Niesha Jarvis, and junior shooting guard Callie Stokes. Despite the team's losing record, Claytor said these players give her high expectations concerning the rest of the season.

"We are going into the post season with a real positive attitude and we should win the first game of the tournament against Shaw," Claytor said.

Claytor's prediction was accurate, because Shaker beat them on Feb. 21 at Euclid High School 47-42. The Lady Raiders overcame an eight point deficit in their come-from-behind victory. Leading the charge were Claytor with 15 points, Jarvis with 12 points and Stokes with 10 points.

A major change for the team this year is in the coaching staff. Maleeka Valentine, the new head coach, is newly arrived from Cleveland Heights, where she worked with the junior varsity team after graduating from the University of Massachusetts.

Claytor said that the coach's defensive background has helped the team improve their defense.

"She is a good coach," Claytor said. "She has taught us so many new things."

Claytor, who has played under a different coach every year, said she thinks Valentine is here to stay.

After beating Shaw, the women played Euclid, who beat Cleveland East 54-26 on Feb. 21. The Feb. 24 Euclid vs. Shaker match was not completed in time for this issue.

RED RAIDER WRAP UP

Men's Basketball

RECORD: 16-3

Upcoming: Sectionals begin today; time/location TBA
- ✪ LEL Erie Division Champs
- ✪ Ranked 9th in NE Ohio
- ✪ Two LEL losses to Parma and Cleveland Heights

Men's Swimming

RECORD: 10-0
- ✪ District champs; won sixth straight LEL championship
- ✪ Bryan Wamsley won 200, 500-yard freestyle
- ✪ Matt Keay won 100 backstroke with meet-record time

Women's Basketball

RECORD: 9-12
- ✪ Finished third place in the Erie Division
- ✪ 4-9 LEL record
- ✪ Defeated Shaw at Solon High School in first round of Sectional Tournament

Women's Swimming

RECORD: 10-0
- ✪ Won 10th straight LEL championship
- ✪ Second place at Districts
- ✪ Jane Calfee, Jenny Koss, Schuyler Holmes were in top three in their events

Ice Hockey

RECORD:9-16-2
- ✪ Beat top ranked Padua in the first round of the Baron Cup Tournament in overtime
- ✪ Chris Wallace scored the game winning goal
- ✪ Lost first round at States

Wrestling

RECORD: 5-2

Upcoming: District Tourney March 2-3 in Mentor
- ✪ K. Sharpley, Heath Butzer, Alphonso Durden, Ben and Josh Greenspan have not been pinned this year

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